

CELEBRATING 55 YEARS OF THE
BUFFALO NIAGARA HERITAGE
VILLAGE

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village as it celebrates 55 years of exceptional work in preserving the agricultural history and rural heritage of the Buffalo Niagara region. The Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village is a testament to the commitment of our community to honor and interpret the stories that have shaped our past and continue to inform our future.

The mission of the Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village transcends further than preservation, as it strives to create an educational institution that fosters a deep appreciation for our local history. Visitors quickly realize that it is more than a museum—the Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village is a vibrant hub for learning, discovery, and inspiration.

The Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village connects the rich tapestry of our region's contributions to the broader narrative of American history and ignites curiosity while inspiring the next generation of leaders, artists, and custodians of our heritage. It offers hands-on experiences that connect visitors with the agricultural roots of our community, making history tangible and relevant.

Today, as we celebrate 55 years of the Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village, we also look forward with hope and ambition. The museum's efforts help to enhance the Western New York region by continuously expanding their reach, and creating even more meaningful connections throughout the community we cherish. Please join me in thanking the Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village's organizers for their years of service to the public.

HONORING JAMES "PAT"
McMONIGLE

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I recognize the service of Special Agent James "Pat" McMonigle (Special Agent McMonigle), who retired from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in June.

Special Agent McMonigle felt the call to serve our country after the tragic loss of a colleague in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Following those events, Special Agent McMonigle devoted his career to the safety and security of the American people.

During his time with the FBI, Special Agent McMonigle served in multiple capacities at home and abroad, including several tours overseas in Mogadishu, Somalia and Kabul, Afghanistan. While most of his career was with the FBI, Special Agent McMonigle also served as a field collections officer with the Defense Intelligence Agency within the Department of Defense.

With degrees from Santa Clara University, Georgetown University, and the Middlebury In-

stitute of International Studies at Monterey, Special Agent McMonigle is well versed in the affairs he was asked to handle. He is exactly who I would want during a crisis or hostage negotiation, deployed abroad as a legal attaché, supervising human intelligence operations, and working on international and domestic counterterrorism.

In addition to volunteering his time speaking with students about his career and encouraging them to find what drives them. Special Agent McMonigle also served to better the lives of his fellow agents through his service on the National Executive Board of the FBI Agents Association.

While Special Agent McMonigle certainly hasn't actually retired, I hope, with this transition, he's able to spend more time relaxing, completing his wood etchings, and enjoying more of life's milestones with his wife Catherine and their four children, Jack, Patrick, Maria, and Connor.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
OCEAN CITY POLICE CHIEF ROSS
C. BUZZURO

HON. ANDY HARRIS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege and honor to recognize Chief Ross C. Buzzuro of the Ocean City Police Department as he retires after 40 years of outstanding public service.

Chief Buzzuro led the Ocean City Police Department for over 11 years with purpose and dedication. As Chief, he oversaw nearly 100 full-time officers, around 20 civilian employees and additional seasonal and part-time employees.

Throughout his nearly 40 years of law enforcement career, Chief Buzzuro served as a police cadet in Baltimore City in 1985 and eventually achieved the ranks of lieutenant, deputy major, major and finally being named lieutenant colonel in 2007. Chief Buzzuro is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy and the University of Maryland's Fire & Rescue Institute. He obtained his bachelor's and master's degrees in management from John Hopkins University.

I would like to thank Chief Buzzuro for his decades of service to the people of Maryland and for his work and dedication to the citizens and visitors of Ocean City. As he enters his well-deserved retirement and steps down from his position, I wish Chief Buzzuro a happy, healthy and exciting retirement spent around family and friends.

RECOGNIZING MUSICAL THEATRE
WEST

HON. ROBERT GARCIA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor an extraordinary institution in my district, Musical Theatre West, a premier musical theater company celebrating 72 years in business and 27 years since they moved to my hometown of Long Beach.

What began in 1952 as the Whittier Civic Light Opera has blossomed into one of Southern California's most respected theatrical production companies. From humble beginnings performing in a high school auditorium, they have grown to produce a full season of shows at the Richard and Karen Carpenter Performing Arts Center, showcasing both classic staples and contemporary favorites.

Their commitment to artistic excellence has not only enriched our cultural landscape but has also nurtured countless homegrown talents who have gone on to shine on Broadway and beyond.

Musical Theatre West's commitment to accessibility has introduced audiences of all ages and classes to beloved productions, reaching demographics who may have not been otherwise exposed to the art of musical theater.

But most importantly their dedication to education reaches over 17,000 children yearly through outreach programs, sharing the magic of musical theater with the next generation.

Let us celebrate Musical Theatre West for its remarkable journey, its lasting impact on our community, and for showcasing the power of the performing arts to inspire and uplift.

RECOGNIZING GOODWILL OF COLO-
RADO'S EXCEL CENTER IN AU-
RORA, COLORADO

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the recent opening of Goodwill of Colorado's Excel Center in Aurora, Colorado.

The Excel Center is dedicated to advancing educational opportunities for adults in our state and aims to empower adult learners to achieve the foundational credential of a high school diploma.

As Colorado's first in-person, no-cost, adult learning high school, the Excel Center will provide a pathway for residents aged 22 years and older to earn a diploma—setting them up for higher earning potential and improved job security.

Equipping students with the tools and support they need to overcome obstacles to academic progress is one of the main priorities of the Excel Center. By working to break down these obstacles, including childcare and transportation, Goodwill of Colorado will help students pursue their educational goals.

Colorado, like much of the Nation, faces a critical workforce shortage, particularly in high-demand industries requiring skilled workers. Adult learners at the Excel Center will be connected with the education resources, certificates, and workforce development they need to enter the workforce and contribute to in-demand fields.

My district, our state, and our Nation are better when we invest in our workforce, create opportunities for growth, and empower our communities. I congratulate Goodwill of Colorado on the opening of the Excel Center and thank them for their service to our community.

CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILLIE HUTCH JONES EDUCATIONAL AND SPORTS PROGRAM

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Willie Hutch Jones Educational and Sports Program.

Since 1984, the Willie Hutch Jones Educational and Sports Program has been providing free programs to children throughout Buffalo, New York. The mission of the Willie Hutch Jones Educational and Sports Program

is to provide underserved children, at no charge, equal opportunities to engage in the highest quality programs and to offer character-building activities through academics, sports, and the arts. From tap/creative dance to chess club, the Willie Hutch Jones program provides a diverse foundation for all interests.

Willie Hutch Jones obtained his Physical Education degree from Vanderbilt University, along with his master's degree in Sports Administration from Wayne State University. These degrees partnered with his experience in the NBA, helped Mr. Jones grow the clinic for the youth of Buffalo. With the exponential growth of this program, the organization has been able to offer a year-round program, incorporate dozens of clinics, and remain free of charge.

The Willie Hutch Jones program has strived to improve the emotional, social, and physical health of underserved youth by providing opportunities, exposure, and experiences for developing the next generation of community leaders. For 40 years, this organization has set out to impact the youth of Buffalo of all racial and socio-economic backgrounds, and has succeeded in doing so. The Willie Hutch Jones program has connected with countless organizations in the community, to turn the original dream into a reality.

Today, we thank the Willie Hutch Jones Educational and Sports Program, for its selfless service to our community. Please join me in congratulating the Willie Hutch Jones Educational and Sports Program for an exceptional 40 years of service.