

him the artifacts of the waterman," Jones said. "They trusted that he would do something with it."

In the archives, Leggett himself, and his foundation, is a part of the history. In 2000, the Library of Congress designated the foundation as a Local Legacy Project.

The archive includes not only artifacts and images documenting Black life in the Bay region, but also documenting Leggett and his foundation—photos of him at a book release or a boat show, examples of exhibits and more.

"He had collected a large collection at that time. Papers, posters, his own personal documents, correspondence with different officials, really chronicling the 30-year history of Blacks of the Chesapeake," said Corey Lewis, assistant state archivist at the Maryland Archives.

"You couldn't tell the story without Vince," Lewis said. For the past several years, interns from local universities have helped document the collection, conduct research and find places to put the artifacts on display, Lewis said. Leggett made a point of working with each intern directly, pointing out figures in photos and telling their stories, ensuring the online collection would be complete, Lewis said. "He could have just given us the collection. But he found it important—we found it important—for him to come in, sit down and spend time with them," Lewis said.

Joel Dunn, president of the Chesapeake Conservancy, said he was incredibly proud to work alongside Leggett to preserve Carr's Beach, a crowning achievement for Leggett's legacy.

Today, the beach is set to be transformed into public parkland. The more recent acquisition—a home on the property—could become a visitor center. Dunn believes it should bear Leggett's name.

Getting the land was far from simple, Dunn said, as the waterfront properties were incredibly valuable. It took millions, including from local government, the Conservancy and Blacks of the Chesapeake, to save the land from another fate, such as residential development. Leggett, who had an existing relationship with landowners and a proven track record of preservation, was instrumental in sealing the deal.

"Vince was so knowledgeable about that history, and all the acts that played there. And the years and months that they played," Dunn said. "He just was such a great storyteller. That, I think, was a really key part of winning over the landowner and the elected officials and garnering the resources we needed." There is a particular memory of Leggett that still plays on in Dunn's mind. It was Juneteenth this year, when Leggett planned a celebration at Carr's Beach—complete with music acts, a fish fry and fried chicken. And there Leggett was, in the middle of it all, dancing on the very beach that he helped preserve. "Now, multiple generations ever after Vince Leggett will be able to experience that place and learn about that place and experience that history, because of his hard work and passion," Dunn said. "I'm so glad he got to enjoy that. I wish he had more time."

INTRODUCING THE DECEPTIVE DOWNSIZING PROHIBITION ACT OF 2024

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Deceptive Downsizing Prohibi-

tion Act of 2024 (DDPA). This vital piece of legislation empowers the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to protect consumers and small businesses against deceptive downsizing, the act of maintaining a product's packaging while reducing the content size. By defining deceptive downsizing as a prohibited unfair and deceptive practice, the FTC can pursue an action against a manufacturer of a consumer product who deceives everyday Americans and businesses on Main Street.

DDPA bans the deceptive downsizing of consumer products, making it unlawful for manufacturers to sell products of reduced size, volume, or weight in packaging previously used for the same or similar product of a larger size. Holding manufacturers who engage in this deceptive practice accountable will protect consumers and small businesses.

The practice of deceptive downsizing has become a significant concern for American households, particularly during times of economic uncertainty. Food, personal care items, and household products that Americans rely on most are particularly impacted by this deceptive practice. As manufacturers reduce the size or weight of products while maintaining the same exterior packaging, consumers are left with less, often for the same or even higher price.

Most disturbingly, many consumers do not realize that the item they purchased was smaller than expected because the packaging looked the same, further intensifying the financial burden on hard-working Americans. Honesty in packaging is essential in enabling consumers to make informed choices, and misleading the public is unacceptable.

This is not simply an issue of safeguarding the wallets of Americans—it is about fairness. When hardworking American consumers and businesses shop, they expect the product that comes in the same size packaging will remain the same size. When that happens, consumers and small businesses rightly feel duped. I am introducing this legislation to ensure that no American family or business is deceived and getting less than expected.

I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this crucial legislation that will help protect American consumers and businesses from the practice of deceptive downsizing so they will know that when they buy a product, they get what they expect and deserve.

TRIBUTE TO CHAIRWOMAN KAY GRANGER OF TEXAS

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I'm honored to join my colleagues to pay tribute to a true pioneer in the House of Representatives.

My good friend KAY GRANGER has been a trailblazer since she was elected in 1991 as the first female Mayor of Fort Worth, Texas. Just a few years later, in 1997 she was elected as the first Republican woman to represent Texas here in the House.

It's been a privilege to work beside KAY for more than a quarter century. Whether it was advancing American space exploration or enhancing our national security, KAY has always fought for our country and for Texas.

In 2017, KAY was named Chair of the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee. As the first woman to chair the subcommittee, KAY always put the needs of our warfighters first, advocating that our military must have the advanced capabilities necessary to deny our adversaries a fair fight.

In 2022, KAY was selected to be the Chair of the House Appropriations Committee—making her the first Republican woman to lead the Committee. As a member of the Committee and her successor on the Defense Subcommittee, I saw first-hand how effective she was at collaborating with fellow Appropriators, navigating an always contentious process to achieve our shared goals to the benefit of taxpayers and our Nation.

I will miss serving with KAY in the House as well as on the Appropriations Committee. I already miss her since she is no longer my neighbor here in Washington—but I know she is looking forward to being back home in Texas, and I wish her and her family the very best in the future.

I thank KAY, for making this institution and our country a better place.

HONORING CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER JERRY BANKS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Chief Warrant Officer Four Jerry Banks, retiring after 40 years of service in the Mississippi National Guard.

Chief Banks joined the National Guard in 1984 while in high school. He mobilized with the 155th for Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990, served as an Engineer Technician with the 168th EN BDE starting in 1995, and was Soldier of the Year in 2003 at Joint Forces Headquarters. He became a Warrant Officer in 2009 and deployed to Afghanistan in 2012 with the 289th EN Co.

His education includes an associate degree in Survey and Design from East Central Community College, where he played football, a certificate in Computer-Aided Drafting, and a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Liberty University. Chief Banks' awards include the Bronze Star Medal, two Army Commendation Medals, and five Army Achievement Medals.

Outside the National Guard, Jerry has officiated high school and collegiate football for over 30 years and was named Mississippi's High School Official of the Year in 2016. He is deeply committed to his family: his wife of 24 years, Karen; their sons, Jarrott (JJ) and Clifton (CJ); daughter-in-law, Madison; and their respective pursuits in contracting, medical school, and college.

Chief Banks embodies dedication to family, service, and community. He is a true American hero and a proud Mississippian, and we are deeply grateful for his service.

HONORING CHAD WILLEMS

HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize my longtime friend and consultant, Chad Willems, for his years of service to me, our state, and our Nation.

Chad Willems has managed hundreds of campaigns and public opinion surveys at both the local and national levels. His work has spanned various political offices, from school boards to members of Congress.

Before establishing himself in Arizona, Willems was heavily involved in California politics, particularly as a grassroots organizer and political fundraiser. He also served as the Executive Director of the Adam Smith Institute, a conservative/libertarian think tank, before transitioning to consulting.

Chad has been one of my closest confidants throughout my time in Congress and I am fortunate to have had his counsel during this important time.

I cannot thank Chad enough for his commitment and dedication to me, my district, our state, and our Nation.

HONORING SONOMA COUNTY
SUPERVISOR SUSAN GORIN**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Supervisor Susan Gorin who is retiring after an extraordinary career of dedicated public service representing the residents of the City of Santa Rosa and the County of Sonoma. Her career is marked by a commitment to conservation, to the public's access to parks and to hardening our community against the threat of natural disasters.

Born in Massachusetts and raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Ms. Gorin later moved to Sonoma County where she attended the Santa Rosa Junior College and Sonoma State University. In 1991, she earned a degree in Political Science and Economics which set her on a path toward public service. She also established her family in our community. In Santa Rosa, Ms. Gorin married her husband Joe Gorin and raised her two children, Tracey Gorin and Courtney Taylor.

Ms. Gorin's elected and appointed service spans nearly three decades with roots in city governance. Her journey began in 1996 when she was elected to the Santa Rosa City Schools Board of Trustees. Ms. Gorin would go on to serve on the City of Santa Rosa's Board of Public Utilities in 2002 and Planning Commission in 2004. Following those posts in City Hall, Ms. Gorin ran successfully to serve as a member of the Santa Rosa City Council. In 2008, her colleagues on the Council appointed her Mayor. She would lead the city through the tumultuous years of the Great Recession.

In 2012, Ms. Gorin ran successfully to represent the residents of Sonoma County's 1st Supervisorial District. Her district includes the eastern portions of Santa Rosa, the

Mayacamas Mountains, the Sonoma Mountains and the Sonoma Valley. She was re-elected in 2016 and 2020 and was chosen by her colleagues to serve as Chair of the Board in 2015 and 2020. Additionally, throughout her three terms as supervisor, she has been a tireless advocate for vulnerable and underrepresented communities.

In 2017, our community was devastated by wildfires that raged throughout California—many lost their homes, and some lost their lives. Ms. Gorin is one of the survivors of the fires having lost her home to the Nuns Fire. In addition to leading her family's recovery, she has been a fierce advocate for fellow survivors. She continues to advocate for fire recovery and resiliency policy.

During her twelve years as a supervisor, Ms. Gorin has served on numerous regional government boards, including the Sonoma County Transportation Authority, the Regional Climate Protection Authority, the Bay Conservation Development Commission, the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit Board, the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, the Local Agency Formation Commission, and many others.

Mr. Speaker, Supervisor Susan Gorin's legacy of public service, her unwavering commitment to our community and her efforts to improve the lives of those she serves exemplify the best of local government leadership. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

CONGRATULATING TIM BETE ON
HIS RETIREMENT**HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Tim Bete, an outstanding community leader and close friend from my Congressional district, who is stepping down as president of St. Mary Development Corporation. St. Mary Development is a faith-based, nonprofit organization in Dayton, Ohio that provides affordable housing for low-income seniors and families.

As president, Tim Bete has successfully carried the torch lit by Sister Rose Helene Wildenhaus and Dayton businessman Dick McBride, who formed St. Mary Development Corporation in 1989. Tim had worked closely with them for seven years, until they retired in 2013 and turned the management of the organization over to him. Under Tim's leadership, St. Mary has continued its focus on creating affordable housing and connecting residents to the services they need.

Since its founding, St. Mary Development Corporation has created 70 affordable apartment communities with nearly 5,000 housing units, including low-income senior apartments, single-family homes and emergency housing, and \$580 million in real estate investment.

From my time as mayor of Dayton, and throughout my service in Congress, I have strongly supported St. Mary's efforts to revitalize the community by creating affordable housing for the poor and elderly. I was proud to collaborate with Tim to secure resources for a pair of senior housing facilities, with priority placement for veterans, on the grounds of the Dayton VA Medical Center. These facilities

provide safe, secure, and affordable housing for veterans, and easy access to the medical care they need.

Tim has dedicated his entire career to making affordable housing available to people who need it. He has served on the boards of housing and homelessness organizations and a nursing home, and currently serves on LeadingAge Ohio's housing subcommittee. Tim is a graduate of the Achieving Excellence in Community Development at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, and has an MBA from Indiana University.

Tim Bete has worked tirelessly to make his community a better place to call home. I wish him all the best in a well-deserved retirement. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking this truly outstanding citizen for his lifetime of service to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I missed Roll Call votes on December 5, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 485 and YEA on Roll Call No. 486.

THE SACRED LIGHTS OF
CHANUKAH**HON. JENNIFER A. KIGGANS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a poem submitted at the request of a Virginia Beach constituent, Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman of Temple Lev Tikvah, and are a reflection of his views:

THE SACRED LIGHTS OF CHANUKAH

The fragile yet formidable Chanukah candles
We tenderly lit, daringly defy the suffocating
Darkness around us and in us,
Soothing and softening, we pray, all who
Their magic of evoked memories of elation
And trepidation with oil—dripping levivot
(Potato pancakes) for expectant levavot
(Hearts) while partaking of sustaining sweet
Sufganiyot (donuts) to counteract the bitter-
ness

Of previous and following defeats,
Celebrating a temporary victory before the
Hasmonians' intra-feuds hastened the demise
Of short-lived Jewish sovereignty with warn-
ing

Lessons for the contemporary scene of
mounting

Extremism and spreading strife,
With hostages in death-filled Gaza darkness
Still-second Chanukah's Festival of Lights
In captivity, how tragically ironic!—des-
perately

Yearning for liberating light lagging too
long

Behind and may not come, and for too many
Their wondrous light already snuffed out by
Those adoring the dark with the candle of
each

Unique life burning down before its time and
Forever lost is that consecrated inner oil,
Though only we, today's brave Maccabees,
Possess the priestly power to extinguish