

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ASHLEY DUNBAR AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2024

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Ashley Dunbar is a passionate, experienced trial attorney and a New Jersey native. Ms. Dunbar received her bachelor's degree from Villanova University and her Juris Doctor from the University of Florida Levin College of Law. While in law school, Ashley competed on the Black Law Students Association International Negotiation Team and advanced to the Final Four as a first-year student. The following year, she was appointed to be the team coach.

Ashley also competed on the University of Florida Alternative Dispute Resolution Team, served as the executive articles editor for the Journal of Law and Public Policy, presided as the vice president of the Black Law Students Association, and served as the community service chair for the Florida Association for Women Lawyers and for the Caribbean Law Students Association.

Ms. Dunbar began her legal career as a public defender, where she tried over 25 cases ranging from juvenile matters to felonies punishable by life. Additionally, Ms. Dunbar collaborated on several successful appeals and reached countless satisfactory settlements through effective negotiation and motion practice. Ms. Dunbar then gained substantial experience in civil litigation as an associate at McDonald Toole Wiggins and as in-house counsel for Progressive Insurance.

In addition to her legal career, Ashley dedicates substantial time to helping the community directly. She has led and participated in numerous protests, coordinated donation drives, mentored young scholars, and planned pro bono events in Orlando. Ashley has also chaired the Community Outreach Committee for the Paul C. Perkins Bar Association as well as served on the Justice Advisory Committee under Congressman DARREN SOTO in collaboration with fellow leaders in Florida to review the Justice in Policing Act of 2020 and other policy issues.

In her spare time, Ashley enjoys fitness, competing in bodybuilding competitions, traveling, and good food.

On February 22, 2024, Ashley Dunbar was honored as a distinguished leader in Central Florida for Black History Month.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CAPTAIN JACK CASEY

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2024

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Captain Jack Casey of Dover, New Hampshire.

On February 7, 2024, Captain Casey was among 4 other Marines who tragically died in a CH-53E helicopter crash in Pine Valley, California.

Captain Casey was commissioned in the Marine Corps on May 16, 2019, and was promoted to the rank of Captain on September 1, 2023. As a Marine, Captain Casey was a member of the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing's Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361, nicknamed the Flying Tigers, where he was a pilot. During his career, Captain Casey was awarded the National Defense Service Medal.

Captain Casey and his family are well known and loved throughout his hometown of Dover, New Hampshire, where he attended Saint Mary Academy and St. Thomas Aquinas High School. After graduation, he went on to attend Virginia Military Institute (VMI) where he was a physics major and Company I commander for the 2018–2019 academic year. After graduating from VMI, he trained at flight school in Corpus Christi.

Captain Casey truly loved his life and lived it in service to others. He married his beloved wife Emma on December 3, 2022. Among his fellow service members, classmates, and friends, Captain Casey was known as a charismatic, helpful, and humble young man that made a positive impact on all. Back home, community leaders and teachers knew him as not only a smart and energetic student, but also a kind and joyous individual with a bright future. We are forever grateful for his selfless service and ultimate sacrifice.

During this difficult time, my thoughts and condolences are with his wife Emma, his parents Catherine and James, his siblings, James, Patrick, Sean, and Catherine, and all of Captain Casey's loved ones. On behalf of the constituents of New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I commend Captain Casey for his service and sacrifice to our Nation. He will be dearly missed.

COMMENDATION OF MISSY RAVER

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2024

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Missy Raver of Yakima, Washington for her passion and work in the hop and beer industry over the last 20 years.

Ms. Raver holds the position of Senior Vice President of Grower Relations, Quality and ERM at Yakima Chief Hops.

Her experiences include working with growers on education to improve hop quality and sustainability, as well as leading Yakima Chief Hops to obtain and maintain several international quality, environmental, and food safety certifications.

She leads the team that performs all hop quality testing on their hop products, and more recently led the development and implementation of their enterprise risk management system.

Missy is a well-respected figure in the hop industry, having been active on several committees that support growers, as well as being a former president of the Hop Research Council.

It is an honor to represent hardworking constituents throughout Central Washington, including those in the hop and beer industry like Missy.

HONORING COACH ALBERT BATES AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2024

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Coach Albert Bates is one of the leading pioneers in introducing youth sports to the Poinciana community alongside King Baker and Linda Cantreva. After the previous leadership decided to discontinue managing the Poinciana Predators to return home back north, he began coaching for the Predators in 1992. He wanted to help continue the development of youth sports programs in the Poinciana area because Poinciana back then was an underdeveloped community, and there was only one other program for the children in a fast-growing community to get involved in.

He became the president of the Poinciana Predators in the mid-90s. At that time, the Predators played in the Central Florida Conference from 1992 to 2000. Coach Bates and other league presidents decided to leave the Central Florida Conference, and by doing so, they created the Mid-Florida Football and Cheer Conference in 1999. In 2000, the Poinciana Predators officially joined the MFFCC. During the existence of the MFFCC, Coach Bates held multiple titles, including two terms as the president of the conference.

Due to the tremendous pressure of starting and helping to manage the MFFCC, he had to step away from managing the Predators. In 2006, after successfully helping the MFFCC flourish and grow, Coach Bates returned as the president of the Predators. In 2006, Coach Bates was not only the president of the Predators, but he was also president of the MFFCC. In 2006, the Predators became members of American Youth Football while remaining an active member of the MFFCC.

In 2008, Coach Mike Ditka of the Chicago Bears presented Coach Bates with the AYF

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Hall of Fame award. Coach Bates was inducted into the AYF Hall of Fame for his long-time service in working with the youth in Central Florida and abroad. In 2008, Coach Bates returned to the role of president of the Predators and continued holding multiple titles within the MFFCC. In 2010, Coach Bates also worked with others and established AAU Tackle youth Football in Central Florida.

Coach Bates has influenced multiple families' lives through his service to the Poinciana community and throughout Central Florida. In 2011, Coach Bates did the groundbreaking when Osceola County dedicated the football field to the Poinciana Predators at Vance Harmon Park.

Coach Bates has been a pillar in the community and a role model to the youth who have come through the program. Coach Bates' influence is so inspiring that former players and cheerleaders return to volunteer as coaches and mentors to the children in the Poinciana area.

On February 22, 2024, Coach Albert Bates was honored as a distinguished leader in Central Florida for Black History Month.

**RECOGNIZING THE SECOND ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE ONGOING WAR
IN UKRAINE AND THE BRAVERY
OF THE UKRAINIAN PEOPLE**

HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2024

Ms. SHERRILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the second anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the courageous defensive efforts of the Ukrainian people since February 24, 2022, fighting to protect their homeland.

During my two trips to Ukraine, once right before the war and another during, I saw firsthand the grit and determination of the Ukrainian people. Many thought Russia's military was the second best in the world; two years later we've come to find it is actually only the second best in Ukraine. Since 2022, the Ukrainian people have fought bravely—defying the odds by holding onto their Capital, Kyiv, keeping the Port of Odessa open for the world food supply, and strengthening their eastern manufacturing sector.

As Congresswoman for New Jersey's 11th Congressional District, I represent one of the largest Ukrainian American populations in the United States. Throughout this conflict, this vibrant community has organized many inspiring efforts to send medical and other needed supplies to Ukraine—collecting and sending over \$4 million of aid through just one local cultural center. Each time I have the honor of meeting with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, including earlier this week at the Munich Security Conference, I tell him about the Ukrainian American community in New Jersey and the vast support he and the Ukrainian people have in our state.

New Jersey's 11th Congressional District is also proud to support Ukraine with ammunition and the M-777 Howitzers that are ensuring Ukrainians can keep up the fight against Russia developed by our military base, Picatinny Arsenal.

For New Jerseyans—supporting Ukraine is not a matter of partisan politics. Democratic or

Republican, New Jersey leaders, from the very beginning, have stood up for Ukraine. We understand the existential threat this poses on global democracy and the damage that would incur if we leave Russian aggression unchecked. America has stood by our ally since the beginning of this war and we must not turn our back on them now.

Slava Ukraine.

**HONORING KAYDENCE TATE ON
RECEIVING THE 2024 YOUTH OF
THE YEAR AWARD**

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2024

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kaydence Tate on receiving the 2024 Youth of the Year award from the Boys and Girls Club of the Sandhills.

Kaydence is a sophomore at Pinecrest High School and has been a member of the Boys & Girls Club of the Sandhills (BGCS) for over four years. Since she joined back in 2019, Kaydence has been an incredibly active member of this acclaimed organization in more ways than one. Earlier this year, she won the Boys and Girls Club of America's Career Launch Essay Contest. Furthermore, she serves as President of the Keystone Club of BGCS, a platform she uses to help engage with her passion of working with the homeless population, especially providing them with nutrition services.

However, Kaydence's dedication to service does not stop there. In addition to helping assist the homeless population, both on her own time and with the Keystone Club, Kaydence also spends time working in the dining hall at Gracious Living Retirement Center, helping to serve food to the residents. She views service as a lifelong commitment, with her long-term goal being to obtain a nursing degree and ultimately become an OB/GYN.

Kaydence is a model student and citizen, and I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this award than her. I know I speak for the whole of our community when I say that Moore County is a better place because of her efforts.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Kaydence Tate on receiving this award and in wishing her all the best in her future endeavors.

**HONORING CELESTIA L. McCLOUD
AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN
CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR BLACK
HISTORY MONTH**

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2024

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Celestia L. McCloud is a native of Winter Haven, Florida and the youngest child of the late Richard and Shirley McCloud and is a lifelong member of the AME church. She graduated from Winter Haven High School, Florida State University with a bachelor's degree in sociology, and Troy State University with a master's degree in public administration.

After completing her education, her professional work began in public service with the Department of Juvenile Justice, working with youth involved in the court system experiencing delinquent behaviors. After leaving the DJJ in 1996, she began her career at Orlando Housing Authority, where she worked until 2010. During her 14 years at OHA, she held positions that allowed her to work with people in various roles to encourage self-improvement and self-sufficiency.

Her most recent chapter with the Osceola County government began in 2010. Over the last 14 years at Osceola County, she mostly held the housing and community services director position. She is very proud of the work that the department has accomplished and is most proud of the great team she continues to build. She understands that her success is mostly because of the hardworking and dedicated staff in the department, as well as the support of county administration and the commissioners.

The department continues to thrive and accomplish great things through services to the community and the citizens of all income and economic levels. Some of the highlights over the last few years include several affordable housing partnership deals, managing HUD expectations in the areas of an entitlement community and Section 8 as a high performer, ongoing management of homelessness efforts, and the administering of COVID-19 funds just to name a few. She was also just awarded the 2024 Lt. Lloyd Burton Jr. Service Award.

On February 22, 2024, Celestia L. McCloud was honored as a distinguished leader in Central Florida for Black History Month.

**RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISH-
MENTS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL
YOUTH COUNCIL**

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2024

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional group of young students who have worked with my staff and me to better their civic engagement and understanding of the federal government.

This year's Congressional Youth Council consists of some of the brightest and most dedicated young minds from throughout the Thumb of Michigan. These young leaders have remained committed to regular meetings, coming together to immerse themselves in the legislative process on a non-partisan, academic basis. Throughout their time in the program, these students have studied legislation, prepared mock bills, and worked to better understand critical issues that impact their communities and countless families across the country. It is incredible how in-depth and thorough their work has been.

This determined group of students has demonstrated an incredible wealth of knowledge of our democratic system, its key challenges, and what is to come in the future.

Mr. Speaker, as policymakers, we would be wise to take notes from this generation of promising young leaders. I ask all my colleagues to join me in commending Michigan's Ninth District Congressional Youth Council for their outstanding performance this year. These