

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 ANNIVERSARY 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 ACCOMPLISHMENTS 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

students, along with their families and those in their lives who support them, should be incredibly proud of the work they have done.

RECOGNIZING AMY TRUJILLO

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Amy Trujillo for receiving Denver7's "Everyday Hero" award in recognition of her service to the Wheat Ridge community.

Amy has been volunteering for the Wheat Ridge Parks and Recreation's 50+ Trip & Outdoor Recreation (Ramblers) Program since 2021. This was a critical time for Wheat Ridge Parks and Rec, as they were rebuilding and restarting programs shuttered during the pandemic. During a time of staff shortages, Amy led volunteer trips to hiking destinations, concerts, hot springs, and much more from as far south as Pueblo and as far north as Cheyenne, Wyoming. Without the help of volunteers like Amy, the Ramblers Program could have been canceled and the trips and experiences they offer our seniors would not have been possible.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Amy Trujillo for her extraordinary civic service and thank her for her dedication to our community.

HONORING NINA GLEE HILL 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, Mrs. Nina Glee Hill was born and reared in Orlando, Florida, and is a 1975 graduate of Jones High School. After graduation, she and her family decided to make Kissimmee, Florida, their home.

She is the mother of two sons, Cory and Jarvis, and grandmother of five. She is the matriarch of her family, not excluding extended family and friends, and enjoys spending her time with them all. Nina began a career in the medical field, where she enjoyed over 30 years as a massage therapist and front desk outpatient coordinator for HCA Florida Osceola Regional.

Nina offers her assistance in her community as an advocate for those in need. She sits on the Citizens Police Review Board for the Kissimmee Police Department and has held positions as first and second vice president for NAACP, Branch 5121 of Osceola County. She is presently nominated for president of this branch. Her major concern is the initiative to get more people out to vote.

She is recognized in the literary world as an accomplished author. She has been the Mistress of Ceremony for the African American Read-In for several years, hosted by the City of Kissimmee and Osceola Library for Black History Month.

Nina feels that her greatest accomplishment is her call to the ministry. She is licensed and

ordained, and now pastor's her own church, which will soon celebrate their third year as Agape Faith Based Ministries.

On February 22, 2024, Nina Glee Hill was honored as a distinguished leader in Central Florida for Black History Month.

RECOGNIZING JAMESON FRENCH'S 70TH BIRTHDAY

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2024

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Jameson (Jamey) French of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, on the occasion of his 70th birthday. Jamey has dedicated his life thus far to New Hampshire and its forest industry, impacting our state and public lands immensely. As President and CEO of Northland Forest Products, Inc., headquartered in Kingston, New Hampshire, and a 4th generation business owner, a passion for the forest industry's interests runs deep in Jamey.

Throughout Jamey's career, he focused on creating sensible solutions to forest usage issues while bringing the forest products industry and the environmental community to a common ground. Jamey was one of a small group of industry leaders in the mid-1990s who embraced the concept of forest certification. Jamey played an instrumental role in forming the national initiative for the Forest Stewardship Council in the United States (FSC-US) and was elected to the FSC-US Board for three years, serving as the first chairman from the economic sector. In addition to receiving many honors and awards, including the Sustainable Standard Setter Award by the Rainforest Alliance in 2004, Jamey is the Vice Chair of the National Wildlife Federation Action Fund and chairs Friends Forever International.

Over the last several decades, Jamey has donated his time, energy, and expertise to local, regional, and national environmental and charitable organizations. His deep-rooted passion for his work and community earned him the title of Portsmouth's most friendly face and a placement on The Portsmouth Herald's top 10 Most Influential list. Outside his dedication to New Hampshire's forests, Jamey's time is devoted to his wife and three beautiful children. On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to recognize Jamey French on his 70th birthday for his lifetime achievements. He continues to amaze the individuals of New Hampshire with his pure devotion to environmental advocacy, and I look forward to seeing what his next chapter holds. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

COMMENDATION OF BRICE HIATT OF JOHN I. HAAS, INC.

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2024

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Brice Hiatt of John I. Haas, Inc. in Yakima, Washington.

Brice is a veteran of the hop industry and has been with John I. Haas, Inc. for over 40 years. He is an asset to the team at the HAAS Yakima Golding Farm in Yakima which is home to over 1,800 acres of trellised fields, harvesting facilities, hop kilns, and bailing operations.

Using his expertise and passion, Brice helped to design a state-of-the-art pellet plant that ensures the highest quality pellets from every hop variety. HAAS has been refining the pellet-making process for over five decades, and Brice has been at the forefront of this innovation.

He exemplifies true leadership qualities and his dedication to hops has helped HAAS deliver the highest quality products to its customers across the state and country. His colleagues have called him the "hop pellet whisperer" which even further illustrates Brice's devotion to his work.

It is an honor to represent hardworking individuals like Brice, and all the employees at the HAAS Yakima Golding Farm who provide the best hops throughout Central Washington and beyond.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF THE HONORABLE JUDGE HERBERT E. MILLEN AND BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2024

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the importance of February as Black History Month, a time to remember and celebrate the accomplishments of African Americans in the United States.

In that spirit, I want to recognize the Honorable Judge Herbert E. Millen of Strasburg, PA. Judge Millen was a man of great integrity, high-esteem, and persistent courage.

Judge Millen was born in 1888 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The Millen name is well-known in Lancaster County for being actively involved in their community and promoting equality following the Civil War.

In the fall of 1906, Judge Millen enrolled at Lincoln University of Oxford, PA, to study Sociology and Economics. There, he established himself as a powerful orator by participating in competitions.

In 1917, he was accepted into the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Upon graduating, he began working for George Mitchell, a lawyer who advocated for racial justice. Mitchell's approach espoused faith in our justice system, a conviction shared by a young Judge Millen.

In his fight for equality, Judge Millen fought against segregation in Philadelphia public schools by offering legal advice to groups filing complaints.

Judge Millen was continually active in his community, often visiting schools, congregations, and fundraising for Mercy and Frederick Douglas Hospitals.

Despite his widespread public support, he was continually passed over to serve as a judge in the Pennsylvania Courts due to his race. Yet, he never ceased fighting for a seat to bring representation of African Americans in the Pennsylvania justice system.

This changed in 1947, when he was appointed to a vacancy in Philadelphia's Municipal Court.