

living, and medical expenses, and their dedication to serving their community is admirable.

Over the past decade, Huron Valley PACE has been a proactive member of the local community, setting up events such as Super Bowl watch parties, heart disease awareness drives, and Martin Luther King Jr. Day community service projects in partnership with other local organizations. In addition to caring for the elderly in Washtenaw County, Huron Valley PACE also works to instill a commitment to public service in local high school and university students by offering hands-on volunteer opportunities for students. Volunteers distribute hot meals to underserved communities, lead food drives, and raise awareness about senior care.

Part of Huron Valley PACE's proactive approach to providing exceptional care for the elderly includes advocating for expanding comprehensive senior care services like the PACE Expanded Act. At the state level, Huron Valley PACE works with the Michigan State Legislature to reduce the cost of medical care and to find innovative ways to help elderly people remain living in their homes. This advocacy is yet another example of how Huron Valley PACE continues to demonstrate their commitment to providing and advocating for quality and affordable elderly care.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the founding of Huron Valley PACE on their 10th anniversary. They have had a tremendous impact on the Washtenaw County area and continue to find exciting ways to continue improving their services to their community, and I cannot wait to see what they accomplish over the next decade.

#### HONORING DENNIS JOHN BENIGNO

##### HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 6, 2024*

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the inspiring life of Dennis John Benigno. A resident of the City of Clifton, Dennis John was debilitated by a traumatic brain injury when he was fifteen years old. The injury that befell Dennis John would have crushed weaker spirits. But instead of shrinking, Dennis John and his family used it to change the world.

Back in 1984 when Dennis John suffered his injury, few people anywhere knew about Traumatic Brain Injury. Information was sparse, even among doctors. The knowledge gap was enormous. Dennis John helped change all of that. The Benigno family drive was tireless, the founding of the Coalition for Brain Injury Research a watershed.

I first met Dennis John when I was running for Congress in 1996. His story inspired me to learn more about the issue and advocate for people with brain injuries. It is thanks to Dennis John's inspiration that I founded, alongside my friend Former Representative Jim Greenwood (R-PA), the bipartisan Congressional Brain Injury Task Force in 2001. At first, you could fit our caucus members into a phone book. Now, there are dozens of members on our task force.

For 23 years, the task force has brought together thousands of families, advocates, and

doctors. We have enacted laws, created policies, won hundreds of millions of dollars in funding, made important connections and told countless stories. These are people who would have never met and laws that would have never passed had it not been for Dennis John Benigno. Other accident victims, military servicemen and women in Iraq and Afghanistan, those participating in youth sports, and millions of people across the spectrum helped because the Congress was aware and ready to support our TBI victims.

Regrettably, Dennis John passed away on January 24, 2024. It is true that we have yet to find the TBI cure we have prayed for, and I have deep regret for that. But when people cynically say no one person can make any difference in our world, they are wrong. They did not know Dennis John Benigno. So, while we mourn a life lost, we celebrate something even bigger a life that lifted up so many others by sheer power and love.

Today, we are hosting Brain Injury Day on Capitol Hill. Hundreds of brain injury victims, advocates, and caregivers from across the nation have come to Washington to educate Congress on the steps we can take to fund and support care for brain injury victims as we fight for a cure. This year's Brain Injury Day is in honor of Dennis John Benigno's life. I do not know if I would be here fighting for this worthy cause if not for Dennis John's inspiration.

The House sends its condolences to Dennis John's parents, Dennis and Rosalind Benigno, his sister Kim Lyons, her husband William, as well as his aunts, uncles, nephews, and cousins. May God bless Dennis John Benigno. God bless his entire family. And God bless America.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF RAYMOND "RAY" L. CORDOVA

##### HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 6, 2024*

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues, Representatives LEVIN, SANCHEZ, and NAPOLITANO, and rise today to honor the life of Raymond "Ray" L. Cordova, a renowned labor leader who leaves behind a legacy of service.

Ray cut his teeth as an organizer in the early 1960s as part of the Freedom Summer Movement in Mississippi for almost two years. A proud veteran of the U.S. Army Airborne, his service to his country continued after the Vietnam War when he returned home to build up his community. He was always a dapper dresser and treated everyone with respect. In a short time, Ray began making his name known as one of the most effective and impactful labor leaders in Orange County.

No matter what or who you believed in—if you were a Republican, Democrat, or something in between—Ray was a champion of all people. When working men and women across America had no seat at the table, Ray fought tirelessly to make room through his leadership in the Communications Workers of America Union and as a labor organizer in Orange County.

Ray's influence and impact extends beyond his labor work. He educated and prepared the next generation of the labor movement, and

helped redefine politics in Southern California. It is because of his mentorship that so many of the leaders of today are prepared to make the changes they envision, in California and beyond.

Not only was he a deeply loved member of our community, but my colleagues and I are lucky that Ray was also a dear friend. I have personally had the pleasure of knowing and learning from him over the last 25 years.

I ask my colleagues to join me and Representatives LEVIN, SANCHEZ, and NAPOLITANO in celebrating the extraordinary life and legacy of Raymond "Ray" L. Cordova. I thank Ray for setting an example of leadership and service that we all may aspire to and learn from.

#### RECOGNIZING MS. ADEL SCHNEIDER

##### HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 6, 2024*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a young Wisconsinite I have had the pleasure of meeting with throughout my time in Congress, Ms. Adel Schneider.

At nine months old, Adel was diagnosed with a severe dairy allergy. This diagnosis transformed the Schneider family's daily life. Oftentimes, Adel had to be careful with cake at birthday celebrations or at holiday events, where a main focus is food. While this could have been isolating, Adel was inspired by her allergy; she began raising awareness in her hometown of Appleton.

Adel and her mother, Kara, are seen on local television, sporting events and at schools in Northeast Wisconsin, fundraising and informing others about food allergies. Adel has been successful in her fundraising efforts, raising over \$50,000 for FARE, a non-profit that promotes food allergy awareness and research. In 2018, Adel was the recipient of the FARE Teen Achievement Award following her involvement in the annual Milwaukee Food Allergy Heroes Walk. In 2020, the Schneider family donated allergy-friendly food to Paul's Pantry in Green Bay after receiving a grant from FARE. She has partnered with Appleton's Minor League Baseball team, the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers, to share information with the community on food allergies. She is a Red Sneakers for Oakley Ambassador, where she creates social media content centered on food allergy awareness. Most recently, Adel ran her annual Teal Halloween Skate, which is a community Halloween event that provides allergy-safe treats.

As Adel became more vocal in the community, her advocacy spread to Congress. I first met Adel in 2020 to discuss the FASTER Act, which requires food companies to include sesame as an allergen on their labels. After successfully passing this legislation, I have continued to meet with Adel to discuss future legislation on food allergies. Most recently, Adel and I discussed the ADINA Act, a bill I introduced in 2023. This legislation would require pharmaceutical companies to be more transparent about their allergy risks on drug labels. I always look forward to meeting with Adel and hearing about her community events in Northeast Wisconsin. I value her perspective and commend the work she is doing on food-allergy awareness.

Adel has inspired many, including myself, with her advocacy for individuals with food allergies. I take comfort in knowing there are young citizens stepping up in their communities. Adel has a long list of accomplishments, and I look forward to watching her accomplish even more.

HONORING NICHOLAS NESSLAGE,  
EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 6, 2024*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nicholas Charles Nesslerage. Nicholas is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nicholas has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Nicholas has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Nicholas has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Nicholas created a gravel water runoff area at his local park in Weatherby Lake to combat flooding.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nicholas Charles Nesslerage for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ABILITIES OF NORTHWEST NEW JERSEY

**HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 6, 2024*

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Abilities of Northwest Jersey on their 50th Anniversary.

Over 50 years ago, a group of 14 grassroot advocates, including parents and members of the New Jersey community, came together to incorporate Abilities of Northwest Jersey as an organization fulfilling the vocational needs of adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Starting as a small workshop serving 13 individuals in Washington, NJ and partnering with local companies, this group of advocates had a mission to improve the employability and quality of life for people with disabilities, leading to their sense of self-worth and independence. Thanks to their efforts, Abilities was legally incorporated in 1974.

Since that time, Abilities have grown exponentially, serving individuals of all levels of abilities, through the expansion of various programs and services. Abilities now serves over 375 individuals and their families throughout the northwest region of the state. They are not only the disability employment experts for this region, but the professional staff also support those who are significantly challenged with medical or behavioral needs. Their services

are both exemplary and accredited by CARE International. They have also opened a variety of Social Enterprises that offer vocational training opportunities as well as a valued service to our community—PrintAbilities, SustainAbilities Electronics Recycling and PossAbilities Thrift Boutiques.

I am so proud of their accomplishments, the positive impact they have made on thousands of lives, and the exciting future that lies ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JASMINE CROCKETT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 6, 2024*

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, on March 5, 2024, I was absent during the time of votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 60, H.R. 3391, Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act 2.0, and YEA on Roll Call No. 61, H.R. 3838, Preventing Maternal Deaths Reauthorization Act of 2023.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF  
CAPTAIN KEVIN MITCHELL

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 6, 2024*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Captain Kevin Mitchell of the Kingsport Fire Department in Kingsport, Tennessee, who is retiring after more than 26 years of dedicated service to our community.

Captain Mitchell began his Journey with the Kingsport Fire Department on September 2, 1997. Over the span of his illustrious career, he has not only served as a firefighter, but also advanced to become a paramedic serving in this capacity for over two decades. His dedication to continued education extended far beyond his immediate duties as a respected instructor in both fire service and medical fields, where he taught crucial lifesaving techniques such as CPR, Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), and more.

Beginning his career as a firefighter, Captain Mitchell was soon promoted to the position of engineer, where he was responsible for driving and operating complex firefighting vehicles. He continued to rise through the ranks in recognition of his exceptional service, culminating in his promotion to Captain, a role he held until his retirement. His commitment to safety and excellence led him to join the Kingsport Fire Department Technical Rescue Team, where he specialized in Search & Rescue, Swift Water Rescue, Confined Space, High & Low Angle Rope Rescue, Trench Rescue, and Structural Collapse. His leadership and expertise in these areas earned him the role of Technical Rescue Team Leader.

In addition to his remarkable service at the Kingsport Fire Department, Captain Mitchell also dedicated eight years as a member of the State of Tennessee Emergency Service Board in Nashville, where he played a pivotal role in regulating EMS activities across the state.

His service to the community extended well beyond his professional obligations to include

his participation with the Big Brother/Big Sister Program of East Tennessee, H.O.P.E. (Help Our Potential Evolve), the Kingsport Life Saving Crew, and the Kingsport Firefighters Association Local 2270. His advocacy efforts also saw him participate in state legislation, lobbying for the rights and welfare of firefighters across Tennessee, advocating on critical issues like PTSD and cancer.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Captain Kevin Mitchell for his outstanding service to the Kingsport Fire Department and the citizens of Kingsport, Tennessee. His retirement marks the end of an era of exceptional service and leadership, and his legacy will continue to inspire current and future generations of public servants. We wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

HONORING EAGLE SCOUT JACKSON  
CHOI OF SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

**HON. ERIC BURLISON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 6, 2024*

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jackson Choi of Springfield, Missouri, who recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America program. Since its inception in 1911, only 4 percent of scouts have earned this rank after a lengthy review process.

Jackson is a junior at Kickapoo High School in Springfield, and he has been in scouting since he joined as a Cub Scout in 2013. He is a member of Troop No. 289, where he has held several leadership positions. He also has attended three of the four high adventure camps earning him the Triple Crown Award from the Boy Scouts of America.

To earn the Eagle Scout designation, each individual must complete a project. Jackson's project was to update the bamboo fencing at the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden at the Nathaniel Green/Close Memorial Park in Springfield. The garden was established by Springfield's Japanese sister city in 1985. The original bamboo fencing had fallen into disrepair, so Jackson studied the process and replaced 100-feet of fencing in the traditional Japanese way.

This accomplished young man deserves our applause for a job well done. I am proud to have him as a constituent.

CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF DR. GUBAD IBADOGLU

**HON. JAMIE RASKIN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 6, 2024*

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on the Government of Azerbaijan to immediately release Dr. Gubad Ibadoglu, a courageous pro-democracy activist, brilliant economist, and beloved husband and father, who has been unjustly detained for over seven months.