

supervised 4,500 employees and managed an annual operating budget of more than \$1 billion. Mr. Russo also served as Director of the Miami VA Healthcare System for six years and at the W.G. (Bill) Hefner VA Medical Center in Salisbury, North Carolina for two years. Mr. Russo is a recipient of numerous awards for distinguished service. He has also served on many boards and committees within the Department of Veterans Affairs and external to the agency. It is clear that Mr. Russo has made a profoundly positive impact on the lives of many Veterans, and I am grateful for his service.

PAYING REMEMBRANCE TO
DAVINA KEISER ON THE OCCA-
SION OF HER PASSING

HON. JAY OBERNOLTE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life of Ms. Davina Keiser, who passed away on January 30, 2024 after her battle with brain cancer. Her family, friends, and community are devastated by this loss. A resident of Sugarloaf, CA, Davina was known as a selfless and caring individual and was a true friend to all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Davina was a devoted educator for forty years in the Long Beach Unified School District, including over decade of service as a piano and mathematics teacher at Wilson High School, while simultaneously serving as the elected treasurer for the Teachers Union of Long Beach. She was an effective PTA President and Treasurer at Fremont Elementary School and was a highly recognized teacher throughout Southern California. Moreover, she was a proud elected delegate to the National Education Association Representative Assembly and worked tirelessly in many teaching organizations to ensure that her pupils and students throughout Southern California had access to quality education.

Davina was no less engaged with her San Bernardino mountain community. As a part-time Big Bear resident for over twenty years, she was deeply engaged in local politics, serving as a member of the Big Bear Valley Republican Assembly and as Executive Vice President of the California Republican Assembly. She was a passionate advocate who believed in the promise and opportunity that the Big Bear Valley and the Golden State represent. A 3rd generation Californian, Davina stood for the best of what our home state offers and fought to safeguard the freedoms and prosperity that are corner stones of the American dream.

Davina had an impact on every life she touched, and she will be deeply missed by all who knew her. My thoughts and prayers are with Davina's family and fiends as they navigate this difficult loss. I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning Davina's passing and celebrating her life.

CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD
FOR FRED AND SUE WORLEY

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fred and Sue Worley of Emory, Texas, and present them with the Congressional Patriot Award. They have dedicated themselves to serving and uplifting our community.

Fred and Sue have known each other since elementary school, and they married in 1968. Together, they raised five amazing children. Fred's public service career began in 1973 when he became one of the first certified firefighter paramedics in Hunt County. During his time as a first responder, he spearheaded numerous initiatives to streamline ambulance and fire prevention services for North Texas residents. Thanks to Fred's efforts, our community can count on reliable and robust emergency services today.

Furthermore, Fred and Sue have passionately fought for Texas veterans to be honored for their life and service. Through their advocacy, the State of Texas has designated the Staff Sergeant Shawn Henry McNabb Memorial Bridge at Lake Tawakoni. Staff Sergeant McNabb served in the U.S. Army and was tragically killed while serving in Afghanistan in 2009. Fred and Sue were also instrumental in securing the naming of the Mildred McMillan Garrett Memorial Bridge. Mrs. Garrett enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps during the Second World War and served as a city councilmember and mayor pro tempore in Rains County. I highly commend Fred and Sue for their commitment to improving the world around them. I am proud to represent such wonderful and distinguished Americans.

It is an honor to bestow Fred and Sue with the Patriot Award for their exceptional service to our Nation and the people of North Texas.

HONORING ROBERTA DUTEIL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 102nd Birthday of Bartonville, Texas resident and World War II Navy veteran, Roberta Maxwell Richardson DuTeil. Mrs. DuTeil was born on January 10, 1922, in Waycross, GA.

In 1943, after graduating from the University of Alabama, she enlisted in the U.S. Navy. She trained first at the Midshipman's School then the Communications School, graduating with the rank of Ensign. Stationed at the U.S. Naval Base Headquarters, Terminal Island, CA, she worked rotating shifts around the clock, covering communications for Navy and Army installation in the area. Roberta was honorably discharged from active duty on May 11, 1946, at the rank of Lt (jg) and continued to serve in the Navy Reserves until March 1953.

Roberta married Army Captain Claude DuTeil in 1946 and supported his call to the ministry as he attended and graduated from

Virginia Theological Seminary before being ordained as an Episcopal Priest. Over the next four decades, the DuTeils ministered to congregations in Hawaii and established a full-scale homeless shelter. Upon retirement, the couple moved to Bartonville to be close to their family.

Roberta has been very active in her church and local communities, supporting many charities. She is always proud to participate in patriotic celebrations and has served as a high-lighted participant in the annual Double Oak Fourth of July parade. I was pleased to present her with the 26th District Congressional Veteran Commendation in 2016.

It was a privilege to join the Town of Bartonville for the special celebration of Roberta "Tutu" DuTeil's 102nd birthday on March 13, 2024. I request that my colleagues join me in commending Mrs. DuTeil's service on the mission field and military service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING REPRESENTATIVE
FRANK CHOPP'S SERVICE TO
THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career and legacy of Washington State Representative Frank Chopp. Representative Chopp is leaving the Washington State Legislature after three decades of committed service to the people of the 43rd Legislative District. Representative Chopp's impressive tenure also included 20 years of service as the Washington State House Speaker. I am proud to have worked alongside Representative Chopp and witnessed his strength of character firsthand during my time as a Washington State Senator.

Many of the strides that the State of Washington has made in support of workers' right to organize, critical infrastructure development, access to housing, immigration, expanded healthcare, and educational equity can be attributed to Representative Chopp's exceptional public service. He has been a relentless champion for low-income and working people across our state, doggedly pursuing every single opportunity to provide more affordable housing and safety net services.

Thanks to Representative Chopp's career and many accomplishments, thousands of Washingtonians have access to opportunity and the pursuit of the American Dream. I am very grateful for his incredible service and confident that he will be a staunch advocate for working families as he returns to his roots as a community organizer. His leadership will serve as a model for years to come.

HONORING HARRIET ROBERTS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Harriet Roberts, an esteemed Tribal Citizen of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation. Harriet Roberts is being honored at this year's Yocha Dehe Fire Department Awards for her longstanding dedication

and leadership within the Tribe and its enterprises.

Throughout her tenure, Ms. Roberts has served on various Boards and Committees, serving eighteen years on the Health & Wellness Committee and Yocha Dehe Wintun Academy Board, thirteen years on the Cache Creek Casino Resort Board of Directors, nine years on the Community Fund Board of Directors, Facilities & Infrastructure Committee, Property Farm & Ranch Committee, and Youth Adult Assistance Program Committee, eight years on the Events Committee, and six years on the Fire Commission and Cultural Resources Committee.

The Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation has for generations lived on lands which include Yolo, Solana, Lake, Colusa, and Napa counties. As longtime stewards of the land, Yocha Dehe has become a growing agricultural presence in the Capay Valley of Yolo County. The Tribe is an important member of our community and provides essential services—such as critical fire and emergency services—to the entire Capay Valley community. I am grateful for the critical work Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation has done on behalf of its community and citizens. As a respected Tribal Citizen of Yocha Dehe, Harriet Roberts has been a beacon of strength and wisdom, her contributions spanning generations and leaving an indelible mark on her community. Her work on behalf of the Tribe is inspiring and humbling. Ms. Roberts traces her lineage back to the Lorenzo family, which has been rooted in the Capay Valley since time immemorial. She is admired and loved by her children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews for her wisdom, guidance, and service to the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Ms. Roberts for her dedicated service and philanthropic actions in our community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

CELEBRATING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF WAYNESBURG UNIVERSITY

HON. GUY RESCIENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Mr. RESCIENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 175th anniversary of Waynesburg University.

Originally formed in 1849 when the Cumberland Presbyterian Church united Greene Academy and Madison College, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania officially chartered Waynesburg College on March 25, 1850. The college gained early acclaim in 1857 when it became one of the first coeducational colleges in the United States and earned widespread praise for grounding its curriculum in faith and service. Following a decade of growth, the college gained university status in 2007 and officially became Waynesburg University.

Each year, the university's students, faculty, and staff engage in more than 50,000 hours of volunteer service to better the surrounding community. The university also remains committed to providing a quality and practical education. As a testament to its academic strength, nearly 99 percent of the class of 2022 reported employment or enrollment in a graduate program within one year of graduation.

Waynesburg University's reputation for excellence extends far beyond Pennsylvania. The institution's additions counseling program ranked fourth nationally in 2021 and 2022, while its online Master of Business Administration ranked 21st nationally for the 2023–2024 academic year. Additionally, Waynesburg University's business and nursing programs were placed on the Colleges of Distinction roster during the 2023–2024 academic year.

Mr. Speaker, Waynesburg University is an integral part of our region's heritage and history. On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I congratulate the university's leadership and community on their 175th anniversary and thank them for their service to southwestern Pennsylvania.

RECOGNIZING DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize March as Developmental Disability Awareness Month. As a country, it is important that we acknowledge and celebrate the diversity and unique abilities of all individuals, regardless of developmental disabilities. By doing so, we promote a deeper understanding of developmental disabilities and the need to create a more inclusive and welcoming society for everyone.

In my district, several non-profit organizations are dedicated to providing positive opportunities and support for families impacted by disabilities. They work collaboratively with other stakeholders to foster a culture of inclusion, advocacy, community and learning.

We can certainly agree that all individuals deserve the opportunity to lead a fulfilling life, pursue their dreams, and contribute to the betterment of our society. I recognize and appreciate the good work of all non-profit organizations throughout Florida's 12th Congressional District that are working to advance this important goal through public-private partnerships. Together, we affirm the value and potential of every individual, regardless of developmental disability status, not only in the month of March, but throughout the year.

CELEBRATING JENNYFER CRAWFORD-WILLIAMS: A DECADE OF EMPOWERING MICHIGAN'S SMALL BUSINESSES

HON. SHRI THANEDAR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Mr. THANEDAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Jennyfer Crawford-Williams, an inspiring entrepreneur and advocate for Michigan's small businesses, on the 10th anniversary of All Things Detroit. In 2014, with just \$1,500, she ventured into entrepreneurship, becoming a renowned name, supported by accolades like Crain's Detroit Business' 40 Under 40 and the Detroit Young Professionals Vanguard Award.

As founder of Ask Jennyfer and the successful All Things Detroit showcase, which

draws 12,000 attendees and earned its own holiday, Jennyfer has created a vibrant community for small business owners. Beyond events, she established All Things Marketplace, an online and brick-and-mortar hub, fostering opportunities for growth.

Her commitment to showcasing Detroit's small businesses is evident in initiatives like Conversations, Ask Jennyfer: The Podcast, and All Things Ticketing. Jennyfer actively curates small business markets for local non-profits within the City of Detroit and serves on advisory boards.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Jennyfer Crawford-Williams for her impactful contributions to Michigan's small business community. Her dedication is a beacon of inspiration and deserves our commendation.

TRIBUTE TO THE BURBANK TEMPORARY AID CENTER

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Burbank Temporary Aid Center (BTAC) in Burbank, California, upon its fiftieth anniversary.

The Burbank Temporary Aid Center was founded in 1974 when the Burbank Ministerial Association saw the need for a centralized source of services to provide assistance to those in the Burbank community who were less fortunate. Under the leadership of the late Reverend Larry Stamper, the association worked with various community members to create a center to address these needs. Originally located in one of the founders' garage and having operated out of several different buildings in Burbank, in the 1990s, BTAC relocated to a storefront property on Burbank Boulevard. After a building effort which spanned 18 months, in 2006, BTAC unveiled its remodeled and expanded facility which included several features, such as a modernized food pantry, to better provide for its clients.

Over the years the center has adapted in response to the changing needs of the community. With its original mission to provide food and clothing to housed residents of Burbank, services have expanded to include unhoused residents, and short-term assistance is now a long-term necessity for some people in the community. Among those receiving help are retired adults, people impacted by labor strikes, individuals and families, and refugees.

The center's main service is as a food pantry. For those with access to a kitchen, BTAC offers a robust monthly grocery program, with the option to personalize each order based on the household. To support the unhoused community, sack lunches are offered to ensure their nutritional needs are fulfilled. At the facility, personal hygiene items are distributed, and there are shower facilities and laundry machines available for use at no cost.

The Burbank Temporary Aid Center is funded by donations from foundations, religious institutions, private individuals, and service organizations. BTAC receives donations of hygiene items and food from various businesses, service clubs and local churches, in addition to daily and weekly donations from major grocery stores.