

history of Saint Paul's College, remains accessible to future generations.

TRIBUTE TO BRIAN NESTANDE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to my good friend and former California State Assemblyman Brian Nestande, who passed away at his home in Palm Desert earlier this month. Brian was a dedicated leader in the Coachella Valley who has left us far too soon, and he will be deeply missed.

Born in Orange County, California, on January 10, 1964, Brian was exposed to the world of public service and politics at an early age. Brian's father, Bruce, was a staff member for then-California Governor Ronald Reagan and later an elected member of the State Assembly and Orange County Board of Supervisors. After graduating from California State University, Fullerton in 1991, Brian started his own political career by taking a position as the Deputy Campaign Manager for the successful congressional campaign of Michael Huffington in Santa Barbara County. A few years later, Brian managed then-Palm Springs Mayor Sonny Bono's congressional campaign, which was also successful. He went on to serve as Sonny's Chief of Staff. In 1998, it was Brian who made the unforgettable phone call to me to share the shocking and tragic news of Sonny's death.

After Sonny's passing, Brian went on to serve as Chief of Staff to Congresswoman Mary Bono from 1998 until 2000. He launched a government affairs consulting business named Nestande and Associates, and worked collaboratively with clients on alternative energy and healthcare issues. In 2008, Brian's own name was on the ballot for the first time and he was elected to the California State Assembly, where he would serve until 2014. In Sacramento, Brian was a tireless advocate for the Coachella Valley and Riverside County, working on important local issues like the Salton Sea and improving our infrastructure. After his time in the Assembly, Brian joined the County of Riverside where he served as Deputy CEO, coordinating legislative priorities with state and federal representatives in the region.

Brian is survived by his wife Gina; his son Hayden; his daughter Sophia; and his stepchildren Sadie, Tad, Mason, Molly and Savana. I extend my personal and heartfelt condolences to the Nestande family, his friends, and everyone fortunate enough to know Brian. Although he may be gone, the many contributions he made to his community and family have left an enduring legacy.

HONORING ERVAD ZARIR F. BHANDARA

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Zarir F. Bhandara, a resident of Irvine

and Ervad of the Zoroastrian Temple in the City of Orange, for his dedication to inspiring his community with his spiritual leadership.

Ervad Bhandara has dedicated his life to promoting the message of the Zoroastrian founding prophet, Zarathustra, through prayers, religious classes, and pastoral services. As a leader of the Zoroastrian community, Ervad Bhandara provides his communities in Orange and Irvine with support, guidance, mentorship, and motivation.

During COVID-19, Ervad Bhandara served his community by visiting hospitals and providing food, counseling, and financial assistance to those in need. As a way to keep his community connected during trying times, Ervad Bhandara live-streamed prayers with messages of Peace, Unity, Harmony, and Hope, reaching hundreds of people quarantining at home. Since 2020, Ervad Bhandara has donated his platelets and plasma over 545 times, helping save over 1,635 American lives. He leads by example to spread the messages of service and sacrifice for our great country.

Please join in recognizing Ervad Bhandara's unparalleled selflessness and humanitarian services to his community. His compassion has helped make a positive difference in the lives of countless people.

RECOGNIZING JULIE SHAMBARGER'S CONTRIBUTIONS RESTORING THE TIMES THEATER IN ROCHESTER, INDIANA

HON. RUDY YAKYM III

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Julie Shambarger for the incredible work she has done to revitalize downtown Rochester, Indiana, by spearheading the effort to refurbish and reopen The Times Theater in Rochester.

As is the case with so many venues on Main Streets across America, The Times Theater was an iconic symbol of Main Street Rochester before closing its doors in 2014.

Rather than accept The Times Theater's apparent fate as a project of the past, Julie Shambarger poured her heart and soul into the mission of ensuring this cherished community fixture would be open for business and welcome visitors once again.

Guided by her belief that The Times Theater could be restored as the vibrant heart of the Rochester community, Julie marshalled the effort to acquire the grants and donations needed to renovate The Times Theater so its reopening could be not only a possibility, but a reality.

Today, The Times Theater is host to not only movies but also live music and community events, and it has welcomed over 9,000 guests since reopening last February. It has elevated the cultural landscape of Rochester and been a beacon of artistic innovation and creative expression.

At a time when many of America's social and civic ties are fraying, places like The Times Theater—places the community can take pride in and congregate at—are all the more important.

I and so many other Hoosiers are immensely grateful to Julie Shambarger for the

dedicated and diligent work she has done to bring more energy and life back to downtown Rochester and all of Fulton County.

I look forward to visiting The Times Theater again soon and seeing how Julie Shambarger's efforts will continue to pay dividends in the years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO PETER ANDREW STURROCK, PH.D. ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Peter Andrew Sturrock, Ph.D., who celebrates the centennial of his birth on March 20, 2024.

Dr. Sturrock grew up in Essex, England and studied at Palmers School, Grays, Essex, where his favorite subject was mathematics. He studied mathematics at Cambridge University, then helped develop radar systems at what is now the Royal Radar Establishment. He earned a scholarship to St. John's College where he was elected to a fellowship.

Dr. Sturrock then pursued work in electron physics at the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, the National Bureau of Standards, and the Ecole Normale Supérieure at the University of Paris.

In 1951, Dr. Sturrock earned his Ph.D. in astrophysics. He researched nuclear physics at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment; plasma physics at St. John's College, Cambridge; microwave tubes at Stanford University; and accelerator physics at the European Organization for Nuclear Research. He invented a number of implements, including a novel microwave tube later dubbed the "Free electron laser."

In 1961, Dr. Sturrock was appointed Professor of Applied Physics at Stanford University, where he lived for nearly 40 years with his wife Marilyn. He is Emeritus Professor of Applied Physics at Stanford and Emeritus Director of the Center for Space Science and Astrophysics. In 1990, he was awarded the Arctowski Medal from the National Academy of Sciences. Dr. Sturrock founded and then served as president for many years at the Society for Scientific Exploration. He also served as Chairman of the Plasma Physics Division and the Solar Physics Division of the American Astronomical Society.

In 2009, Dr. Sturrock published his autobiography, *A Tale of Two Sciences: Memoirs of a Dissident Scientist*, which covered both his research in conventional physics and his less mainstream investigations.

In 2013, he published *AKA Shakespeare: A Scientific Approach to the Authorship Question*. In this book, he lays out a method for weighing evidence which he developed for studying pulsars. Dr. Sturrock then invites the reader to apply the method to tabulate their own "degree of belief" in three different candidates for authorship of the works usually attributed to Shakespeare.

He was elected a Legacy Fellow of the American Astronomical Society in 2020 and has a deep interest in unidentified flying objects.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring Peter

Sturrock on achieving this extraordinary milestone and in thanking him for his lifetime of superb scientific endeavors. He is, indeed, a national treasure.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO
CLARIFY CERTAIN DUE PROCESS
RIGHTS OF FEDERAL EMPLOY-
EES SERVING IN SENSITIVE PO-
SITIONS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill to clarify certain due process rights of federal employees serving in sensitive positions. This bill would overturn an unprecedented federal court decision, *Kaplan v. Conyers and MSPB*, that stripped many federal employees of the right to independent review of an agency decision removing them from their jobs on grounds of ineligibility. The case was brought by two Department of Defense (DOD) employees, Rhonda Conyers, an accounting technician, and Devon Northover, a commissary management specialist, who were permanently demoted and suspended from their jobs after they were found to be no longer eligible to serve in noncritical sensitive positions. In 2014, the Supreme Court declined to hear the case, which allowed the decision to stand. This bill is cosponsored by Representative ANDRÉ CARSON.

Specifically, the decision prevents federal employees who are designated as "noncritical sensitive" from appealing to the Merit Systems Protection Board if they are removed from their jobs. Noncritical sensitive jobs include those that do not have access to classified information. The decision affects at least 200,000 DOD employees who are designated

as noncritical sensitive. Even more concerning is that most federal employees could potentially lose the right to an independent review of an agency's decision because of a rule issued by the Office of Personnel Management and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence that permits agency heads to designate most jobs in the federal government as noncritical sensitive, which went into effect in July 2015.

The decision undercuts Title 5, section 7701 of the Civil Service Act, which ensures due process rights for federal workers, as required by the Constitution. Stripping employees whose work does not involve classified matters of the right to an independent review of an agency decision that removes them from their jobs opens entirely new avenues for unreviewable, arbitrary action or retaliation by an agency head. This bill would stop the use of "national security" to undo a vital component of civil service protection and of due process.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 79 (E-BRIDGE Act); YEA on Roll Call No. 80 (Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act); NAY on Roll Call No. 81 (Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6276) USE IT Act, and providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 1065) denouncing the Biden administration's immigration policies); and NAY on Roll Call No. 86 (Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act).

HONORING REVEREND DR.
ANTHONY L. RILEY

HON. CORI BUSH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Ms. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise with the people of St. Louis to honor the outstanding tenure of Reverend Dr. Anthony L. Riley. Rev. Riley has served as Senior Pastor at Central Baptist Church for five years.

As a historically Black church in the St. Louis community, Central Baptist Church has a rich 178-year-old history. Rev. Riley has made his mark as the church's fourteenth senior pastor. He formerly served as Executive Pastor for the Luke Church in Texas, where he provided leadership to staff, associate ministers, and diaconate.

As a devoted father and dedicated pastor to the congregants of Central Baptist Church, Rev. Riley has consistently answered the call of public service. In 2022, Rev. Riley earned his Doctorate of Ministry degree in Leadership and Preaching at Virginia Union University's School of Theology. Within his education and ministry, Rev. Riley has strived to establish holistic practices for the next generation of ministers. His goal of teaching and unifying our communities of faith distinguishes him as a leader for all people.

Rev. Riley truly embodies the principles of love, dignity, service, and humility that define the characteristics of a successful leader in ministry. On behalf of Missouri's First District, I congratulate Rev. Riley on his five-year anniversary and thank him for his continued commitment to service.