

International. Since then, BCI has been the leading trade association for unlocking the potential of energy storage and supporting the commercial integration of essential products. BCI members are committed to safe, responsible battery manufacturing and sustaining the world's most successful circular economy.

The domestic lead battery industry is an American manufacturing story that should make us all proud to be a part of. The industry in the United States has more than 165 GWh of manufacturing capacity, 39 lead battery manufacturing facilities, over 250,000 lead battery collection and distribution sites, and 9 lead battery recycling facilities. Lead batteries have a nearly 100 percent recycling rate, an industry sustainability achievement deserving of our recognition.

The U.S. battery industry powers roughly \$8.1 trillion worth of domestic industrial economic output annually, or roughly 20 percent of the U.S. economy. Forty-eight million jobs are related to or reliant on the battery industry and related downstream businesses. And the industry continues to invest to meet the future.

The batteries made by BCI members over the past century have powered nearly a billion vehicles in the U.S. alone—a staggering contribution to American mobility. Fifty percent of the world's energy storage capacity is reliant on lead batteries, which are a particularly vital part of virtually every industry sector, including transportation, traditional vehicles, electric vehicles, autonomous vehicles emergency and remote power, data centers, telecommunications, and renewable energy storage.

I am especially proud of the work of East Penn Manufacturing, which is the largest single-site, lead battery facility in the United States. East Penn is located in my former congressional district in Lyons, Pennsylvania, and employs over 10,000 people.

The President and CEO of East Penn, Chris Pruitt, leads this important company with its remarkable workforce in our state, and also currently serves as the Chairman of the Board for Battery Council International.

The battery industry continues to be vital for our economy, our low carbon future, and our manufacturing sector, as well as the many industries that rely on energy storage.

I would like to congratulate my friend and BCI board chair, Chris Pruitt, as well as BCI President, Roger Miksad, and all of the members on the 100th Anniversary of Battery Council International.

#### HONORING THE WOODSIDE HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM ON THEIR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 2024*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Woodside High School Men's Basketball Team from Newport News, Virginia on becoming the Virginia High School League's Class 5 State Champions.

On Saturday, March 9, 2024, the Woodside Wolverines won the Class 5 State Championship Game against the Lloyd C. Bird Skyhawks with a score of 53–33. This is the second year in a row that Woodside High School has claimed a state championship title.

Led by Coach Stefan Welsh, the Wolverines closed their season with a record of 27 wins and 1 loss.

The Wolverines and Skyhawks battled throughout the first and second quarters for an advantage. At the end of the second quarter, though, the Wolverines went on a 9–0 run positioning themselves into a 23–15 lead by half-time. The Wolverines then expanded their lead in the second half creating as much as a 23-point lead on their opponents. The Wolverines were able to defend this lead throughout the rest of the game and ultimately win the championship.

Mr. Speaker, I want to again congratulate the Woodside High School Basketball Team and thank Coach Welsh, the parents, and the entire Woodside High School community for supporting these students throughout the season. I wish them the best in their future endeavors, and I wish the program continued success.

#### HONORING SOL ORTEGA AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 2024*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Sol Ortega was born in Peru and migrated to Kissimmee when she was seven years old. Her parents, Esther Rivasplata and David Ortega, created a life in Central Florida where they contributed to the growing tourism economy. Her family's immigration journey and sacrifices inspired Sol to pursue a career in public service to give back to the community she grew up in. While she was young, she participated in community service projects through the local YMCA, becoming a mentor for Bookmark Buddies through the Education Foundation of Osceola County, and, while in high school, volunteered in Teen Court, a program to divert less serious juvenile cases away from the more formal Juvenile Court.

During her time at Professional and Technical High School, she enrolled in the dual enrollment program where she attended Valencia College. Thanks to this program, she was able to earn her associate degree and high school diploma at the same time. She then moved to Gainesville, Florida, to attain her bachelor's degree in political science and Latin American Studies—making her the first in her family to graduate from a four-year institution.

During her time at the University of Florida, Sol advocated for immigrant issues and completed a fellowship in the Florida State Capitol. Sol then moved to Washington, D.C., to pursue an internship in Congress and worked in service of Florida's Ninth Congressional District, providing vital support for constituents, including during the aftermath of Hurricane Maria. Sol now works at the White House Office of Public Engagement, conducting outreach to the broader Latino community.

Ms. Ortega's leadership has allowed her to represent Central Florida and Kissimmee proudly. She will continue to work towards creating spaces for her community to be heard and represented at all levels of government, with the goal of building a better community.

#### TRIBUTE TO COUNCILMAN W.B. WILSON

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 2024*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a community leader and devoted public servant. W.B. Wilson—the “Workhorse of Williamsburg County”—transitioned from this life on March 15, 2024. His rich sense of humor, wisdom, and optimistic spirit will be sorely missed.

Councilman Wilson dedicated his life to serving others. He was elected to the Williamsburg County Council in 1994 and immediately got to work improving the county's roads, many of them rural roads that had never been paved.

W.B.'s proudest achievement was improving access to clean water in the county. After his father died from kidney disease directly connected to unsafe drinking water, W.B. made it his mission to ensure others in his community did not suffer the same fate. As a result of various USDA grants and loans he helped secure, Williamsburg County now has abundant access to clean drinking water. It was through his efforts to improve the essential infrastructure of Williamsburg County and his various other talents that W.B. earned his reputation as a natural leader.

In addition to his work on the Williamsburg County Council, W.B. was actively involved in the South Carolina Association of Counties, the Williamsburg County Billing Committee, the Community Emergency Response Team, the Hemingway High School band and athletic booster club, and many other organizations. He also served on the boards of various community organizations and volunteered as a firefighter.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Verlena Dicker Wilson, daughter, P. Jeanette Simon, son, Andre Wilson, brother, Samuel C. Wilson and sisters, Fannie Smith and Valtricia Cunningham.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in celebrating the remarkable life of Councilman Wilson. Over the course of W.B.'s long career of service, there wasn't a person in Williamsburg whose life he didn't touch. His decades of work improving the lives of the people of Williamsburg will resonate for years to come.

#### HONORING DR. PETER STONER

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 2024*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a White Freedom Rider from Jackson, Mississippi, Dr. Peter Stoner.

Dr. Peter Stoner, is a courageous Civil Rights Freedom Rider and a genuine American hero. His selfless dedication to the Civil Rights Movement, particularly his role as a white Freedom Rider, significantly influenced the course of history, contributing to the passage of the Civil Rights Voting Act of 1966.

Dr. Stoner's commitment to justice and equality demonstrated through his role as a

white Freedom Rider, played a pivotal role in shaping history and leading to the enactment of the Civil Rights Voting Act of 1966. Despite enduring beatings, imprisonment, and defying discriminatory laws by marrying outside his race, Dr. Stoner's unwavering determination has left an indelible mark on our Nation's history.

Beyond his activism, Dr. Stoner's extraordinary actions include enduring physical assaults, facing imprisonment, and challenging discriminatory laws by marrying outside his race. His sacrifices, along with those of his family, are evident in their encounters with challenges, such as the denial to partake in the estate of Pearl K. Stoner.

At the age of 83, Dr. Stoner resides in Jackson, Mississippi, caring for his wife, who is currently receiving care in a skilled nursing home following a debilitating stroke.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Peter Stoner's contributions to the Civil Rights Movement.

**HONORING JANELLE DUNN AS A  
DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CEN-  
TRAL FLORIDA FOR WOMEN'S  
HISTORY MONTH**

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 2024*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Janelle Dunn is the chief executive officer of True Health, a non-profit federally qualified health center serving low-income and underserved populations within Orange and Seminole Counties. Mrs. Dunn obtained a master's degree in health administration from the University of Central Florida and a bachelor's degree in business administration from Loyola University New Orleans. She is a certified medical practice executive through the Medical Group Management Association, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Leadership Seminole Class 32, and a proud wife and mother.

Mrs. Dunn's tenure with True Health began in 2012 when she was a center manager. She has held the roles of director of operations and chief operations officer before being appointed CEO amid the global pandemic in 2020. Under Mrs. Dunn's leadership, True Health has grown from seven locations to nine, added two new pharmacies and an optometry and optical department, and acquired the Healthy Start program for Orange County to provide services for mothers and babies. Mrs. Dunn is an advocate for access to healthcare and believes in the innovation and implementation of creative solutions to existing challenges. As illustrated during the COVID-19 pandemic, True Health was the only FQHC in Central Florida to operate a monoclonal infusion center, which allowed patients to recover at home and avoid the hospital.

Mrs. Dunn's transformative leadership has been celebrated with prestigious recognitions, including the 2021 CEO of the Year and 2020 Diversity in Business awards from the Orlando Business Journal. In 2023, True Health was honored as the Healthcare Business of the Year by the Seminole County Chamber of Commerce and recognized as one of the Top 100 Women-Led Organizations in Florida by The Women's Edge. In January 2024, True

Health received the Humanitarian Award from the City of Sanford's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Steering Committee.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. MARILYN STRICKLAND**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 2024*

Ms. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, on March 20, 2024, I missed Roll Call votes. Had I been present I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 92, and NAY on Roll Call No. 93.

**RECOGNIZING JOE MISLINSKI'S  
SERVICE TO OUR NATION AND  
THE 10TH CONGRESSIONAL DIS-  
TRICT**

**HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 2024*

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the outstanding contributions and public service of Mr. Joe Mislinski.

Joe Mislinski is as a distinguished graduate of the United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point, Class of 1978. A trailblazer in his own right, Joe was part of the inaugural class that permitted members to select specialties beyond combat-arms, choosing the Ordnance Corps. Notably, Joe became the first CSMA graduate to attend the joint service Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) school, reflecting his courage and readiness for challenging assignments.

Joe served with distinction throughout his active-duty tenure, including deployments in the United States supporting the Secret Service and in Germany with the Combat Engineers in the 3rd Armored Division during the Cold War. Joe exhibited unwavering commitment to national defense and global security, championing America's priorities on the world stage.

Following his military service, Joe continued to epitomize the values of Duty, Honor, Country as an active member of the West Point Society of Chicago. Over two decades, in various capacities, including serving as board member and ultimately president, Joe was dedicated to mentoring new cadets and fostering connections among West Point alumni in Chicago.

Joe has also served as chair of my Military Service Academy Selection Committee for the 10th Congressional District. As Representative for the 10th District of Illinois, one of my most significant responsibilities is nominating students to our Nation's esteemed military academies. Since my first term in the 113th Congress, Joe has generously volunteered his time and extensive institutional knowledge to assist me in interviewing and ultimately nominating our future military leaders.

As Joe embarks on a new chapter with his family in Connecticut, his commitment to service remains undiminished, as he will serve as coordinator for admissions to West Point for the state of Connecticut. Joe's legacy will continue to inspire us all, underscoring the profound influence of one individual on our com-

munities. Once again, I extend my deepest gratitude to Joe Mislinski for his distinguished service to the Nation, the 10th District of Illinois, his tireless efforts in support of West Point, and his continued commitment to excellence in all endeavors.

**IN REMEMBRANCE OF TERESA  
DARLENE MCDOWNEY**

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 2024*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Teresa Darlene McDowney, who passed away on Thursday, February 22, 2024. She was born on July 15, 1971.

She was employed with the King George Sheriff's Office as an Animal Control Officer from 2013 to 2020 and was employed with the Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office at the time of her passing. While with the Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office, she served as the Animal Shelter Manager, Animal Control Officer, and Animal Advocate. In every position, Teresa was a dedicated worker. Even when she was not working with the Sheriff's Office, she would often answer text messages about dangerous dogs in the middle of the night and help the community with animal related matters.

Teresa was often described as a sweet and kind lady, often assisting her family, friends, and the community. While Teresa was a genuinely kind and sweet natured person, she was also very straightforward—leaving little room for misinterpretation. If Teresa said it, she meant it. She was a protector of her family and what was right.

Teresa leaves to cherish her precious memory, her husband, Kevin McDowney of Colonial Beach, VA, and son, Nathaniel Pittman of Williamsburg, VA.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in celebrating the life of Teresa McDowney. May God bless her family and her community during this time.

**HONORING SONYA STALNAKER AS  
A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN  
CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR WOM-  
EN'S HISTORY MONTH**

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 2024*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Sonya Stalnaker is a Union commercial painter by trade. She started in 2001 as an apprentice and completed the Painter's apprenticeship of the IUPAT in 2005. She has spent her last 23 years dedicated to her Union, her family, and doing what she loves: painting and helping others.

She has served in the capacity of shop steward on the job and part-time instructor at the Painter's apprenticeship. Working hard and coming up in the ranks, she served as Financial Secretary in Local 1010 for the previous 5 years. She was the Commercial Paint Coordinator for the Florida Finishing Trades (Painter's apprenticeship) from 2021 to 2023.