

In recognition of its 100 years of unparalleled entertainment and community service, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the remarkable legacy of B&B Theatres and the profound impact it has had on our Nation's cultural landscape.

SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE TEXAS LIONS CAMP

**HON. CHIP ROY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 5, 2024*

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Texas Lions Camp in Kerr County.

The Texas Lions Camp was incorporated as a 501(c)3 by the State of Texas on April 4, 1949. The polio epidemic was rampant during this time, and the Texas Lions were looking for ways to give children affected by polio a place where they could experience some normalcy in their lives. Congress passed two resolutions that authorized the sale of excess federal land surrounding the Kerrville Veterans Hospital. One of my predecessors, Congressman Ovie Clark Fisher, was instrumental in the passage of this legislation. Then-Senator Lyndon Baines Johnson was also an early supporter of Texas Lions Camp. Mr. Bill Mickelsen, a Lion from Kerrville, traveled tirelessly to Washington D.C. to advocate for the "Texas Lions League for Crippled Children" camp in Texas. Mr. Mickelsen and his friend J.C. "Buddy" Murray created a detailed scale model of the Camp and eventually constructed the buildings.

However, one of the strings attached to the sale of five hundred and four acres was that the Lions had to raise \$100,000 within six months to guarantee construction. In pursuit of these dollars, the Lions established their "life membership status." A Lion was Governor of Texas at the time, Allan Shivers. He broadcasted over the radio a call for donations to the Camp. Mr. Jack Wiech served as the first president of Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville. He went on a speaking tour across the State to drum up donations. As the six-month deadline loomed, the Lions were still \$20,000 short of their goal. Mr. Sealy McCreless of San Antonio wrote a check that pushed the Lions over their goal for the Camp fundraiser.

The next step was to begin construction and raise \$150,000 to cover those costs. The Lions hit the road again for a second fundraising campaign.

Mr. Herb Petry, the Lions Clubs International president at the time, said the Camp for special needs children "is the best example of Lionism in action." Mr. Petry went on to say that "what is being done in Kerrville under the banner of Texas Lionism must be pleasing in the sight of Him Who first taught us to serve, to be our brother's keeper, and to put the Golden Rule into practice."

Mr. Mickelsen worked tirelessly for fifteen years to construct the Texas Lions Camp based on his original small-scale model. Famous Kerrville names, including Hal Peterson and Howard Butt of the HEB Grocery Company, donated resources to round out the construction and supplies for Camp.

Over the years, the Camp adapted to allow other special-needs children to participate.

Children living with blindness, hearing and speaking disorders, and various crippled limbs all enjoyed Texas Lions Camp together. This defied the original prognostications of psychologists in the 1950s, who believed children with varying disabilities could not get along. However, they learned to help each other and combine their strengths to thrive. Several hundred adult blind were also trained at the Camp through a contract with the State of Texas for a couple decades into the 1980s.

Every summer, children with physical handicaps such as diabetes, down syndrome, polio, missing limbs, blindness, and other disabilities are accommodated every year at a weeklong camp session at no cost to their families. Over 82,000 children have attended Texas Lions Camp since it opened in 1949. The Camp motto is "All Can Do!" Campers experience a zip line, climbing wall, ropes course, fishing, boating, swimming, archery, arts and crafts, miniature golf, and much more. Therapeutic horseback riding was added in the 1980s and became a favorite pastime for campers. A more recent addition is the family camping experience, allowing the families of kids with special needs to experience Texas Lions Camp.

On a more personal note, my grandfather was afflicted by polio, and my grandmother was his devoted caregiver. I will never forget their sacrificial love for one another and my family. I am grateful to the eight hundred Texas Lions Clubs International that work tirelessly to provide funds for children with special needs to attend Texas Lions Camp.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CLAY  
ADAM BRYANT

**HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 5, 2024*

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Clay Adam Bryant, a cherished resident of Pottsville, Arkansas, whose passing on March 23, 2024, leaves a profound void in the community and in Arkansas' Fourth Congressional District.

Born on March 21, 1977, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Adam was the beloved son of Clay and Dianna Bryant. Throughout his life, he exemplified compassion, dedication, and a steadfast commitment to service. Adam's legacy as a devoted firefighter spanned over 24 years, during which he selflessly served the Chickaloh and Pottsville Fire Departments. His bravery and resilience in the face of danger touched countless lives and inspired admiration among his peers.

Beyond his role as a firefighter, Adam was known for his caring heart and willingness to lend a helping hand. He found joy in coaching softball for his children, embodying the values of teamwork and camaraderie. A staunch supporter of the Razorbacks, Adam's passion for sports brought together friends and family in celebration of shared victories.

In his spare time, Adam found solace in the great outdoors and enjoyed hunting and fishing. His presence brought warmth and laughter to every gathering, especially when surrounded by his family, including his wife, Esperanza, his children, grandchildren, brother, sister, nieces, nephews, and a multitude of cherished friends.

As we reflect on Adam's life, let us remember his infectious smile, his dedication to his community, and his profound impact on all who had the privilege of knowing him. May his legacy of kindness and service to others continue to inspire future generations.

May we honor Adam's memory by embracing the principles of compassion, unity, and selflessness that defined his life. Our thoughts and prayers are with his loved ones during this time of loss.

RECOGNIZING RABBI BENNETT  
MILLER

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 5, 2024*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rabbi Bennett Miller as he celebrates his 50th year in the Rabbinate. It is my honor to join with the members of Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple and the greater community in celebrating this milestone.

Upon becoming a rabbi in 1974, Rabbi Miller served under Rabbi Harvey Fields at Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple. In 1977 he became Senior Rabbi at Anshe Emeth, where he continued to serve until his retirement in 2018.

Following his retirement, Rabbi Miller became Rabbi Emeritus of Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple; he also served for one year as the Interim Senior Rabbi at Temple Emanu-El in Westfield. He also served as National Chair of the Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA) and currently serves as Chair of the URJ/ARZA Herzl Society. As Rabbi Emeritus, Rabbi Miller provides pastoral guidance and leadership to the congregation and continues to support Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple's mission of religious education, spiritual growth, and social action.

Rabbi Miller attended Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati and earned his Doctor of Ministry degree from Princeton Theological Seminary. In 2024, he received the Builders of Zion Award and in 2023 he was the recipient of Matan's Trail Blazer's Award.

Despite his retirement, Rabbi Bennett Miller has continued to provide outstanding rabbinical leadership and contributions to the community. I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Rabbi Miller on his 50th year in the Rabbinate and thanking him for his ongoing service.

RECOGNIZING THE EVERETT HIGH  
SCHOOL RIFLE TEAM

**HON. JOHN JOYCE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 5, 2024*

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Everett High School Rifle Team on winning the 2024 Pennsylvania Interscholastic Rifle Championships held in Meyersdale, Pennsylvania.

The discipline, focus, and sportsmanship demonstrated by each member of the Everett High School Rifle Team are a testament to

their character and the exceptional coaching they have received. Through countless hours of practice and unwavering determination, they have honed their skills to perfection.

Under the leadership of Coach Coltin Rice, the team has gone undefeated since 2017. Their dedication, perseverance, and unwavering commitment to excellence have propelled them to new heights, setting the bar even higher for future teams.

On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate the Everett High School Rifle Team, and wish them every continued success in the years to come.

#### CELEBRATING THIENSVILLE VILLAGE PRESIDENT VAN MOBLEY

#### HON. GLENN GROTHMAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 5, 2024*

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the remarkable leadership and service of Van Mobley, President of the Village of Thiensville, whose unwavering dedication has significantly enriched the lives of his constituents and propelled the progress of his community over the last twelve years.

Throughout his dedicated career, Van Mobley has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to public service and community development. His journey began in 2006 when he was appointed to the Village Board as a Trustee, filling a vacant seat, and subsequently earning the trust of his constituents through two additional three-year terms. In 2012, he was elected Village President, a position he has since held for four consecutive three-year terms.

Under President Mobley's stewardship, Thiensville has experienced remarkable growth and advancement. His visionary leadership has spurred significant infrastructure improvements and development projects throughout the village. Notably, he spearheaded the development on South Main Street, overseeing crucial water infrastructure installations and the establishment of key properties, including the Thiensville Health Alliance, Reuter Insurance, and a new Village parking lot. His pivotal role in the Pigeon Creek flood control project has been instrumental in safeguarding Main Street from flooding during major rain events.

President Mobley's commitment to collaboration and intergovernmental cooperation has been exemplified by his efforts to merge fire and EMS services with the City of Mequon, resulting in the formation of the Southern Ozaukee Fire and EMS Department. This innovative partnership has garnered recognition from the Wisconsin Policy Forum for its effectiveness and efficiency.

Beyond infrastructure, President Mobley has overseen numerous enhancements in Village Park, including the construction of the Port Washington State Bank River Stage, new Comfort Station, playground upgrades, and boat launch improvements. Van Mobley's dedication to preserving Thiensville's rich history and heritage is evident in his personal investment in the historic Thiensville State Bank building on Green Bay Road, which he purchased and meticulously renovated.

In recognition of his exceptional service and tireless efforts on behalf of the residents of Thiensville, I extend my heartfelt gratitude and congratulations to Van Mobley. His accomplishments have had a profound and lasting impact on the community, and I wish him continued success in all his future endeavors.

#### CELEBRATING UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND PROFESSOR EMERITA DR. ANN WYLIE'S EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY

#### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 5, 2024*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, over the weekend, a great Marylander and important member of our University of Maryland community celebrated her eightieth birthday: Dr. Ann Wylie. She has educated countless students from across Maryland and America ever since she first became an Assistant Professor for the University of Maryland's Department of Agronomy in 1972. The following year, she became a founding faculty member of the University of Maryland's renowned Department of Geology.

From the President's Medal and the Scholar-Teacher Award at the University of Maryland, College Park, to the Butler Prize awarded by the Geological Society of Washington, Dr. Wylie has received widespread acclaim for her research and leadership in academia. Crucially, Dr. Wylie has displayed a commitment to service that deserves the admiration of every Member of this Congress. Her work on how exposure to minerals—including many mined in Maryland—affect human health has helped us better safeguard the well-being of the American people. Whether for the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. geological survey, the U.S. Bureau of Mines, or the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, she has made important contributions to our government's understanding of these issues.

As a Terp, I'm also grateful for her leadership in the University of Maryland, College Park's administration. Throughout her distinguished career, she has served as Interim Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Senior Vice President and Provost, Vice President for Administrative Affairs, Interim Dean of the Graduate School, and many other vital positions. My staff and I have had the pleasure of working closely with Dr. Wylie on many occasions over the years—especially when she served as Chief of Staff to my friend Dan Mote during his tenure as the university's president.

Mr. Speaker, we at the University of Maryland, College Park, could never have known just how lucky we were to have Dr. Wylie join our community more than a half century ago. She has propelled the university and its students to greater heights and leave an indelible mark on campus. I ask that all my colleagues join me in wishing my fellow Terp well as she marks this terrific milestone. May they also join me in thanking her for her many years of service and leadership.

#### HONORING TONY SPANIOLA

#### HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 5, 2024*

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to an incredible advocate—Tony Spaniola—whose unwavering commitment and tireless work have made an indelible mark on his community, the state of Michigan, and beyond.

In 2016, Tony's world shifted when he learned that his home, and many others near Lake Huron in Oscoda, Michigan, had been exposed to contamination from per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, more commonly known as PFAS, a class of chemicals used by industry and, in Oscoda's case, our military. At the time, the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda had been identified as the first site contaminated with PFAS in Michigan, and the first U.S. military PFAS site in the country.

This revelation ignited a fire within Tony—one fueled by a determination to confront the threat of these "forever chemicals." Studies have shown PFAS exposure may lead to an increased risk of cancer, decreased fertility in women, developmental delays in children, and other health risks. Tony became a driving force behind efforts to address PFAS contamination on local, state, and federal fronts.

His leadership was instrumental in the founding of the Need Our Water (NOW) community action group in Oscoda. Tony's vision also extended beyond Michigan, as he co-founded the Great Lakes PFAS Action Network, and also serves on the leadership team of the National PFAS Contamination Coalition. He played a pivotal role in the creation of the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team, where he currently serves on the Citizens Advisory Workgroup. Furthermore, his efforts contributed to the establishment of the bipartisan Congressional PFAS Task Force of which I am proud to be a member—a group dedicated to advancing legislative solutions and raising awareness about the urgent need to address PFAS contamination nationwide. Because of his relentless advocacy and uncanny ability to bring stakeholders together, Tony has earned the respect and the ear of senior Pentagon leadership, including Undersecretary of Defense Bill LaPlante, and has played a major role in pushing the Department of Defense to act more urgently on PFAS cleanup.

Tony has been an advocate his entire life, which can in part be attributed to the influence of his father, Francis Spaniola, a retired Army officer who served in the Michigan House of Representatives from 1975 to 1990, representing Corunna in Shiawassee County. During his father's tenure in the state legislature, when the toxic flame retardant polybrominated biphenyls, more commonly known as PBB, was mistakenly sent to Michigan farmers as livestock feed and entered the food supply, Tony worked alongside his father at the forefront of tackling the PBB health crisis. Together, they initiated legislation that led to the creation of the Michigan Cancer Registry, regulated PBB, and compensated farmers for poisoned livestock.

I have had the privilege of bearing witness to Tony's unwavering passion since I took office in 2019 and remain grateful to have been