

better person to have recognized during Women's History Month.

TRIBUTE TO LUPE MARTINEZ

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great respect and admiration to honor the extraordinary life and contributions of Lupe Martinez, President and Chief Executive Officer of UMOs, as he transitions into the esteemed newly created title and role of President Emeritus.

For an impressive fifty-four years, forty-nine of which he served as President and Chief Executive Officer, Lupe Martinez dedicated his boundless energy, unwavering commitment, and visionary leadership to UMOs, a non-profit advocacy organization tirelessly working to improve the lives of under-served populations across Wisconsin and beyond.

Under his steadfast guidance, UMOs has evolved from its humble origins in Milwaukee to become one of the largest Hispanic-managed non-profits in Wisconsin and one of the most expansive multi-state nonprofit corporations in the United States. Through his strategic vision and tireless advocacy, Lupe has overseen the expansion of UMOs's reach into seven states, securing over \$100 million in contracts and ensuring vital programs and services are accessible to those in need. Lupe served as a unifying force, reaching out to fellow citizens regardless of then ethnic backgrounds and mobilizing them toward a shared purpose that transcended personal boundaries and influenced all involved groups.

Lupe Martinez's dedication to empowering others and fostering long-term sustainability for UMOs exemplifies his decision to step back from day-to-day management, which provides opportunities for others to step up into leadership positions. As he assumes the role of President Emeritus, Lupe remains steadfast in his commitment to the organization, focusing on long-range planning, strategic partnerships, securing funding, and assisting with the transition to new leadership.

Throughout his illustrious career, Lupe Martinez has been a tireless champion for migrant and seasonal farm workers and other marginalized communities, locally and nationally. His advocacy efforts have extended to the highest levels of government, where he has served on numerous boards and councils, including the National Farmworker Alliance, Farmworker Justice, and the Wisconsin Council on Migrant Labor.

Lupe's impact transcends organizational boundaries, as evidenced by his involvement in community events and organizations such as the Mexican Fiesta and the Employ Milwaukee Workforce Investment Board. His relentless pursuit of social justice and equity has garnered widespread recognition, earning him prestigious awards such as the Hispanic Heritage Leadership Award from the Green Bay Packers Foundation and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Hispanic Professionals of Greater Milwaukee.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to have this opportunity to pay tribute to Lupe Martinez for his impeccable service to

Milwaukeeans, Wisconsinans, and Americans everywhere. May his legacy inspire us all to continue building a more just and equitable society for generations.

CONGRATULATING THE WINNING STUDENTS AND THEIR APPS FROM THE 2023 CONGRESSIONAL APP CHALLENGE

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and my fellow Congressional App Challenge Co-Chair, Representative ZACH NUNN (IA-3), I rise to congratulate the winning students and their apps from the 2023 Congressional App Challenge.

The 2023 Congressional App Challenge saw 11,334 students from all 50 states and the U.S. territories submit applications. Collectively, these students created 3,645 fully functioning apps. In the nine years since its inception, the Congressional App Challenge has helped motivate 58,262 students to create 16,589 applications. With 374 Members of Congress, nearly 84 percent of the House of Representatives, hosting an App Challenge in their district, this year marks tremendous success and growth of the program. We look forward to continuing to celebrate the successes of these students here in Washington, D.C. at "House of Code" later this month.

The 2024 Congressional App Challenge launches on May 1, 2024, and concludes on October 24, 2024. I am thrilled to continue to support this terrific program and its students at this milestone moment. Please join us in celebrating the program, and all our student alumni on September 17, 2024 for National App Challenge Day.

To learn more about the winning apps and the student winners, visit www.congressionalappchallenge.us/2023-winners/.

CELEBRATING DR. GLENDA GLOVER ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. NIKEMA WILLIAMS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Dr. Glenda Glover, Ph.D., JD, CPA, as President of Tennessee State University upon the celebration of her retirement following this academic year. After 11 years of service successfully leading her alma mater, Dr. Glover will turn her voice to a national platform, and all Americans will be better off for the privilege of Dr. Glover's voice playing a greater role in our country.

Dr. Glover was born in Memphis, Tennessee, the daughter of a civil rights activist and raised in the Civil Rights Movement. She graduated from Tennessee State University, an illustrious Historically Black College and University, before getting her MBA at another incomparable HBCU, Clark Atlanta University, proving that, truly, Atlanta Influences Every-

thing. Not yet satisfied, she moved to Washington, D.C. and obtained a Ph.D. in Economics from George Washington University and a law degree from Georgetown University.

Professionally, Dr. Glover is a star. She spearheaded the creation of the country's first HBCU-based Ph.D. program in business at Jackson State University, and chaired the Department of Accounting at Howard University's School of Business. She has been a leader in the private sector, and has served as the President of her beloved alma mater since 2013. Dr. Glover is not just the President either: she was the Thurgood Marshall College Fund's HBCU President of the Year in 2018, and HBCU Digest's 2019 Female President of the Year.

During her time as President, Dr. Glover has elevated the brand, the reputation, and the legacy of TSU, put TSU on a national platform, and attracted a broader array of students than ever before, including the Fall 2022 largest freshman enrollment among HBCUs. She has more than doubled TSU's endowment and more than doubled research grant funding received. She has tripled the number of employers recruiting TSU students, and made TSU a more competitive place to work. She established new degree programs and raised TSU into the R2-high research category, one of only 11 HBCUs in that level, with a plan to move up to R1. TSU became the first HBCU to establish a national technology and innovation center, and the first student-operated physical therapy and occupational therapy clinic. They have the No. 1 HBCU forensic and debate champions three years running, and their marching band became the first collegiate marching band to win a Grammy.

I am a proud third generation HBCU grad, and I know first-hand what HBCUs mean for economic mobility for the Black Community. And so does Dr. Glover. She is the Vice-Chair of President Biden's HBCU Initiative, and has been out loud and on purpose demanding that our illustrious HBCUs get the funding they so deeply deserve, including playing a leading role in the record \$2.7 billion investment in HBCUs in the American Rescue Plan and holding Tennessee accountable for long-term underpayment.

Congratulations to Dr. Glover on her well-deserved retirement. The Tennessee State University community is so privileged to have had her at their helm for the last 11 years, as is the entire HBCU community. I know that Dr. Glover's next chapter will have her remaining as one of our country's foremost Conspirators for Justice. I look forward to joining her wherever that fight may be.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK T. MCHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to cast my vote for H.R. 3250.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 109.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR BILL
SOMERVILLE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Bill Somerville, an extraordinary philanthropist, maverick grant-maker, advisor and a generous, creative, and devoted advocate for those in need. He retired as President of the Philanthropic Ventures Foundation (PVF) on December 31, 2023 and is being honored for his work on April 12, 2024.

Bill Somerville served for 17 years as the highly regarded Executive Director of the Peninsula Community Foundation. Eager to exercise his creativity he established PVF in 1990, with funding by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. Since that time PVF has given nearly \$250 million in grants, and in 2023 made grants totaling \$23.6 million, with a lean staff of 8 people. PVF gives grants of \$500 to \$10,000, without requiring the usual proposals or paperwork.

Among his many accomplishments, Bill Somerville proposed placing Stanford graduates in a year-long fellowship to bring more young people into philanthropy. He created the Parent Involvement Worker Program which places recent ESL graduates into classrooms to ease the transition for students. He wrote Grassroots Philanthropy with Fred Setterberg to show other foundations how to use wealth to improve the world. He is a consultant and advisor at Stanford and other area universities and has shared his approach to philanthropy with more than 400 community and family foundations.

Larry Purcell, the beloved Director of the Catholic Worker House in Redwood City, said recently that, "everywhere I look as a Catholic Worker in Redwood City, I see the footprints of Bill Somerville. He organized entire communities by targeted grants to the poor." Somerville funded the first truck that the Catholic Worker House used to pick up and distribute free fresh food to the poor. Bill helped establish a food bank which is now the San Mateo County Second Harvest Food Bank which serves tens of thousands of families a month.

Mr. Speaker, as I did on August 2, 2019, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring the transformational work of an extraordinary man, Bill Somerville, and thank him for his unique leadership. He has strengthened our communities and bettered our Nation through his vision/ passion, and integrity, and he stands as a role model of what a citizen can do to create change in the lives of so many.

HONORING SPECIALIST JUSTIN
MEDINA, CLEMENTON TOWN
HALL HOMETOWN HERO

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Specialist Justin Medina, Clementon Town Hall Hometown Hero.

Born and raised in Blackwood, New Jersey, Specialist Justin Medina has shown dedication

and commitment throughout his life. During his time at Highland Regional High School, he was involved in sports. Immediately after graduating from Highland Regional High School Specialist Justin Medina enlisted in the United States Army.

Specialist Justin Medina enlisted in February of 2021 and served for two years achieving the rank of PSE E-4 before he was honorably discharged in 2023. Specialist Medina served as a paratrooper during his enlistment, and he was stationed at Fort Bragg, now known as Fort Liberty.

During his tenure in the United States Armed Forces, he served with distinction. Specialist Justin Medina was the recipient of multiple Army Commendation Medals which are granted for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service.

Following his military service, Specialist Justin Medina began working as a security officer and is presently employed at a local smoke shop. Throughout his career he has shown a willingness to learn in different environments.

Today, Specialist Justin Medina is determined to further his education and pursue a college degree and he desires to earn a Real Estate License. Specialist Justin Medina has a strong work ethic, and there is no doubt that he will continue to make significant contributions to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring and commending Specialist Justin Medina for his service to his community, the United States Army, and to the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING MRS. NICOLE VAN
HELDEN

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary leadership and contributions of Nicole Van Helden in safeguarding the land and water resources of Wisconsin's Eighth Congressional District.

Throughout her career, Nicole has excelled at bringing partners together to produce results through shared conservation efforts. She played a key role in the growth of Save the Bay, an initiative to reduce the amount of sediment and nutrients leaving rural landscapes and entering tributaries. By facilitating conversations with leaders in a variety of sectors, Save the Bay hosted conversations on solutions to improve water quality and improve soil health. Nicole's leadership, vision, and ability to engage diverse groups were key to expanding Save the Bay's scope and objectives, identifying needs and gaps, and applying strategies to improve and expand conservation farming practices. Since 2015, Nicole has volunteered numerous hours planning and facilitating meetings for Save the Bay.

Nicole has been involved in land conservation for her entire professional career. Shortly after receiving her Bachelor of Science in Zoology and Biological Aspects of Conservation from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, she joined The Nature Conservancy. Over the past 25 years, she has continued to rise in the ranks at The Nature Conservancy (TNC) starting as assistant of land stewardship and land

protection all the way to her current role as TNC's Director of Land Conservation. In this role, she leads conservation staff, projects, and partnerships focused on conserving and improving Wisconsin's resilient landscapes. This includes overseeing TNC's land protection and management work in Wisconsin and forging cooperative relationships with partners from various backgrounds. Her most recent projects include the evaluation of natural lands for inclusion as a National Estuarine Research Reserve, constructed treatment wetlands to capture agricultural runoff, stream and wetland restorations, improved fish passage for migratory Great Lakes fish, and priority-setting tools for conservation actions in the Green Bay watershed. During her career she also played a key role in the protection of St. Martin Island, which is now part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Green Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

Nicole has clearly been a leader in multiple facets of her career. From being a founding co-chair of the Green Bay Conservation Partners to chairing the Site Evaluation Committee for the Bay of Green Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. She is also active in her sons' Boy Scouts troop and volunteers on the Park, Recreation, and Forestry Committee for the Town of Ledgeview.

Highly respected throughout the conservation community in my district and across Wisconsin, Nicole's extensive institutional knowledge has been an invaluable resource to me during my term in office, and her can-do spirit is an inspiration to all who know her.

It has been my great privilege to work with Nicole during my term in Congress. I thank her for giving generously of her time and talents to advance the Save the Bay initiative, and I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding her unfailing dedication as a champion of conservation.

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY BRIDGE

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge was a national tragedy that impacts all Americans.

I continue to pray for the families of the bridge workers who were lost in this catastrophe. While our hearts are with them, and with Maryland, the impacts of this disaster have a national and global reach.

The Port of Baltimore is one of the most critical pieces of maritime infrastructure in the United States, directly and indirectly employing thousands of hardworking Americans far beyond the Chesapeake Bay. Small businesses up and down the East Coast and across the country will feel the impacts of this disruption, and we must do all we can to minimize the economic toll they will bear, and to protect the workers they employ.

While the focus remains on clearing the channel and returning port operations to their full capacity, I stand with President Biden along with Maryland's state and local leaders and Congressional delegation—we will do all we can to assist those impacted by the loss of this thoroughfare and the closure of the Port of Baltimore.