

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YPSILANTI MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM

#### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 29, 2024*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels on the occasion of their 50 years of service to the community. The care and service that they provide to older members of the Ypsilanti community is worthy of commendation.

Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels began at the suggestion of the Ypsilanti's Mayor's Council on Aging in 1973. This program began with 16 homebound neighbors receiving home-delivered meals, and has since expanded into a reliable and strong force in Washtenaw County. The organization now includes pet food delivery through a partnership with the Huron Valley Humane Society, home repairs, and a program that helps seniors live more safely while remaining in the comfort of their own homes. The level of care and dedication to recipients of this organization is shown as it offers vegetarian meals, produce delivery, as well as medically friendly and culturally sensitive options. Additionally, Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels delivers all seven days of the week, ensuring that all senior clients get fresh meals each day.

The success of Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels would not be possible without the numerous partnerships they have. The support of these community organizations enables the program to run and deliver food to homes every day. The First Baptist Church of Ypsilanti was their first partner when the program started, their original home, and still plays a huge role in supporting them today. YMOW also works with staff and students from the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University to help with the initial intake process of community members and partners with Michigan Medicine's Patient Food and Nutrition Services to produce the meals. These partnerships also allow for YMOW's other services to the community, including the Pets Assisting the Lives of Seniors (P.A.L.S.) program that is run with the support of the Humane Society. All of these partnerships demonstrate how integrated the program is throughout the community and the extent of its aid throughout Southeastern Michigan.

Dedicated to serving older adults, Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels has demonstrated its commitment to the community throughout these last five decades. By providing nutritious meals, social interaction with community members, and other services, this organization allows the homebound residents in Washtenaw County the opportunity to maintain independence and comfort by living in their own homes. Every member of a community deserves to feel safe and happy, and this organization ensures that some of our most vulnerable members are able to thrive.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the 50th anniversary of Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels. For the last half-century, the program has been diligently serving the older adults of the community when they need it most. We thank Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels and its team members for its service to the Sixth District and are excited to see how the program keeps serving the community.

### TRIBUTE TO LINDA MIGLIORE

#### HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 29, 2024*

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Arizona's 8th Congressional District and the State of Arizona's 29th Legislative District, I would like to recognize Linda Migliore. Linda Migliore is the Chairwoman of the Republican Legislative District 29 which spans the Cities of Surprise, El Mirage, Youngtown, Litchfield Park, and Goodyear. The district also includes a West Valley fixture, Luke Air Force Base, where the sound of freedom is often heard flying the skies of Arizona.

As Chairwoman, Linda has worked tirelessly to ensure citizens are educated and engaged in the civic process. Her efforts to ensure Republicans are elected in the Phoenix West Valley have been critical to the success of Legislative District 29 and beyond.

I am thankful for Linda's leadership and dedication to conservative principles. I sincerely appreciate her service to the legislative district and to the State of Arizona.

### RECOGNIZING CHARLES KOMON

#### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 29, 2024*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Charles Komon for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Charles has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Charles, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Charles's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Charles Komon on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

### RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT BRETT GRAHAM

#### HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 29, 2024*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Brett Graham of Denison, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Brett has dedicated himself to serving and uplifting our community.

Brett is a 5th generation native of Grayson County. He graduated from Baylor University in 1990 with a Bachelor of Business Administration specializing in marketing and real estate. In the following year, he began his career as a real estate appraiser with the Jack Poe Company in Dallas. In 1993, Brett stepped up to serve as the Chief Executive Officer of Graham International, a family-owned franchised truck dealership. Graham International has several locations in North Texas and Oklahoma, and since 1965 they have continued to provide quality services for commercial truck drivers in our community. Brett has concurrently served as the CEO of Graham Truck Centers since 2000.

Throughout his extensive career, Brett has been an active member of our community and advocate for a prosperous business environment. In the late 1990s, he joined the board of the Sherman Chamber of Commerce and worked with the Texas Association of Business in numerous leadership positions. For his outstanding work, the Baylor Institute for Family Business has recognized his company as the 2013 Texas Family Business of the Year. In 2016, Governor Greg Abbott appointed Brett to serve on the board of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles for his expertise in the automobile industry. In his free time, he volunteers with the Texas Republican Party to help elect constitutional conservatives in local and state elections. I am proud to recognize Brett today for his important contributions to our community and support for strong family values.

It is an honor to bestow Brett with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

### RECOGNIZING MY LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT, JESSICA LARSEN, FOR HER EXCELLENT WORK ON BEHALF OF MINNESOTA'S THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

#### HON. DEAN PHILLIPS

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 29, 2024*

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my Legislative Assistant, Jessica Larsen, for her work on behalf of every constituent in Minnesota's Third Congressional

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

District. Jessica has departed my office for a new opportunity serving as Legislative Aide in the Office of Sen. ELIZABETH WARREN, and I could not be more proud or grateful for her service.

From her birthplace in Bellshill, Scotland to the basketball court at Minnetonka High School and on to the halls of the United States Congress, Jess has proven herself a force to be reckoned with. In the spirit of a Minnetonka Skipper, Jess set sail across the pond to attend Lancaster University in the United Kingdom. After graduating with First Class Honours, she returned stateside to serve her home district with compassion and dedication.

Jess joined the office as a Staff and Executive Assistant, imparting her infectious joy on every colleague and constituent that walked through the front door. Her intelligence, kindness, and Radical Hospitality touched everyone she met and inspired the staffers who would follow in her footsteps. It wasn't before long that Jess grew into a widely respected and highly competent Legislative Assistant whose passion for helping others made her a role model for the entire team. Constituents came into their conversations with Jess eager to meet a DC staffer with deep ties to the district. They consistently left blown away by her empathy and policy acumen for the most pressing issues facing our country and Minnesota's Third Congressional District.

Jess worked tirelessly to make U.S. Department of Agriculture programs more equitable for Black and Brown farmers, provide adult sized changing tables in airports to ease travel for people with disabilities, and preserve Minnesota's Boundary Waters as an oasis uninhibited by harmful mining practices. She is a fierce advocate who has an unparalleled ability to treat the issue at hand with the utmost importance. The office will not be the same without her insight, diligence, warm smile, and occasional sarcasm. We look forward to working for Jess some day in the not-too-distant future.

The people of Minnesota's Third Congressional District were lucky to have her expertise and leadership, and she will be dearly missed. However, I'm extraordinarily happy that this expertise will continue to serve the nation and the people of Massachusetts. I wish Jessica all the best in her future endeavors and thank her for two years of faithful service to this nation—and many more to come.

#### TRIBUTE TO GLEN SAYLER

### HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 29, 2024*

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the president of the Sun City Republican Club, Glen Sayler. Glen Sayler has distinguished himself by providing exceptional service to the residents of Sun City, Arizona.

As president, Glen has been an advocate for educating members on the civic engagement process and how to interact with elected officials. The efforts of Glen and the Sun City Republican Club have been pivotal to the success of elected officials and candidates in the Phoenix West Valley.

I am thankful for Glen's leadership and dedication to conservative principles. I sincerely

appreciate his service to Congressional District 8 and the State of Arizona.

#### RECOGNIZING MAGAIRA HOWARD

### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 29, 2024*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Magaira Howard for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Magaira has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Magaira, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Magaira's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Magaira Howard on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

#### RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT TOM WATT

### HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 29, 2024*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sheriff Tom Watt of Denison, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Tom currently serves as the chief law enforcement officer for Grayson County, and he has dedicated himself to serving and protecting our community.

Tom was born at Selfridge Air Force Base in Harrison Township, Michigan. He began his lengthy law enforcement career in 1979 as a Corrections Officer for the United States Army's 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kansas. In 1981, Tom began serving as a civilian patrol officer for the Sherman Police Department. For his outstanding public service and excellence, he was selected to serve as Sherman's Chief of Police in 2004, a position he held for nearly nine years. Tom briefly retired in 2013, but was drawn back to public service when then-Sheriff Keith Gary asked him to become his Chief Deputy, which Tom gladly accepted. When Mr. Gary retired in 2016, Tom was appointed by the Grayson County Commissioner's Court to complete his term. He was later elected to serve as the duly elected Sheriff for Grayson County and will retire at the end of this year.

For his extensive efforts to protect and uplift our community, Tom has been recognized on several occasions. In 2019, Tom received the Community Champion Award from the Texoma Health Foundation for his leadership on the issue of mental health services. He also received the Dr. Don Rogers Award from the Texoma Behavioral Health Leadership Team. Tom currently serves on the board of the Texoma Regional Police Academy and the Texoma Law Enforcement Leadership Group. In his free time, he enjoys bowling, golfing,

and playing pinball. I am proud to recognize Tom today for making a positive impact on the world around us, and I wish him continued success for many years to come.

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

#### HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL A.C. ROPER, THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN THREE-STAR GENERAL IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE

### HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 29, 2024*

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career and achievements of Lieutenant General A.C. Roper, the first African American three-star general in the U.S. Army Reserve, as he celebrates his retirement from the U.S. Army.

Lieutenant General Roper's exemplary service began after he was commissioned in 1983 as a student at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. His military education is extensive, including Chemical Officer Basic and Advance Courses (Honor Graduate of both), Public Affairs Officers Course, Equal Opportunity Advisors Course (Commandant's Award), Inspector General Course, Combined Arms Staff Services School, Command and General Staff College (Commandant's List), the US Army War College, the Joint Senior Reserve Component Officer Course, the Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA) Course, the National Defense University's CAPSTONE Course, the NORTHCOM Joint Task Force Commanders Course, and Harvard University's National & International Security Seminar. He earned a Master of Science from the University of Alabama and a Master in Strategic Studies from the US Army War College. He furthered his education at the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) National Academy and the FBI National Executive Institute. He specialized in protecting critical infrastructure and served on the Executive Board of the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force.

On May 14, 2021, Lieutenant General Roper broke a barrier within the armed services, becoming the first African American to become a three-star general in the U.S. Army Reserve, earning the rank of Lieutenant General.

Most recently, Lieutenant General A.C. Roper served as the Deputy Commander, U.S. Northern Command, and Vice Commander, U.S. Element, North American Aerospace Defense Command at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado. As Deputy Commander, Lieutenant General Roper assisted the Combatant Commander in anticipating, preparing for, and responding to threats against North America and within Northern Command's assigned area of responsibility. Additionally, he provided oversight of the U.S. Northern Command's mission to provide Defense Support of Civil Authorities.

Throughout his decorated career, Lieutenant General Roper's reputation has always been one of purpose and passion. Prior to this current assignment, he commanded the 76th