

philanthropy of a Pikes Peak community champion, Bill Moritz. He was prematurely taken from us on March 16, 2024 at only 72 years of age by cancer. Bill was a man of unwavering faith and tireless dedication to the Lord, to community service, and to mission-based companies.

After earning a bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri, Bill met his wife Mary Lee Martin in 1975. Together they raised four children. In 1985, Bill earned a Juris Doctorate degree from the O.W. Coburn School of Law, embarking on a career and path that would impact countless lives.

A Christian discipleship ministry, The Navigators, brought the Moritz family to Colorado Springs in 1985. Bill founded Moritz & Associates, PC in 1988 and practiced law in Colorado Springs for over 35 years. He specialized in estate planning, non-profit organizations, and business law. He was lead attorney for From Success 2 Significance which provides training and strategies that empower generous families to live a more significant life.

Out of personal tragedy in 1998, when the Moritz's daughter Breanna Joy was killed in a car accident, there emerged Joy to the World Foundation Thailand. Bill and Mary Lee founded this anti-trafficking ministry to protect vulnerable children and families in northern Thailand. His passion for wise and impactful philanthropy led him to co-found a community foundation in Colorado Springs in 1989. Bill served as the Executive Director of the New Horizons Foundation until his death. In 2003 Bill founded Joy to the World Foundation to help philanthropic families and ministry professionals multiply the impact of their generosity and service.

Bill's 35 years of wise counsel helped numerous ministries, including among may others: The LeTourneau University Foundation, Navigators, Baptist Bible College and Seminary, Harvest Workers, Christian Broadcasting Network, International Bible Society, Compassion International, Oral Roberts University, Seattle Pacific University, Young Life, The Christian and Missionary Alliance Denomination, Summit Ministries, Christian Blind Mission International, HCJB World Radio, Mission Aviation Fellowship, Mission of Mercy, and the YMCA. Bill also authored a book, *Unlocking The Full Potential of Your Assets; Creative Uses of the Charitable Remainder Unitrust*.

Bill is survived by his devoted wife of 48 years, their three children—Joni, Josh, and Amy—along with their spouses, and 11 cherished grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I can personally attest to the outstanding life of Bill Moritz. We practiced law together for a short time early in our careers. I saw firsthand his integrity, his Christian commitment, and his devotion to his family.

Today I ask my colleagues to honor a life of significant generosity, philanthropy, and innovation. Because of Bill Moritz's life Colorado's Fifth Congressional District and indeed the world are a better place.

CONGRATULATING WILLIAM COFIELD WIDNER

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate William Cofield Widner

on his well-deserved retirement from Southern Company after 43 years of service.

Headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, Southern Company provides clean, safe, reliable and affordable energy to 9 million customers nationwide, including throughout the State of Georgia and its First Congressional District.

Throughout his career, Cofield's hard work, dedication and commitment to the communities where he has lived and served has made an indelible mark on our state and Nation.

A Georgia native, Cofield began his career at Southern Company in 1981 and has served in various roles including at Georgia Power and Southern Company Gas. A portion of his career focused on serving customers in his hometown of Newnan. He also supported Georgia Power's residential and commercial customers, resource planning, nuclear development and regulatory affairs organizations, which recently announced the successful operation of America's first new carbon-free nuclear energy reactors in more than 30 years at Plant Vogtle.

Additionally, Cofield's work with the Georgia Department of Economic Development's "Georgia Allies" partnership has helped continually enhance the state's business climate, keeping Georgia ranked as the number-one state for business according to Area Development magazine.

On behalf of the people of the State of Georgia, I congratulate Cofield and wish him, his wife Jane, his sons Drew and Jack, and his grandson Bo the very best as he enters the next phase of his life.

HONORING WILLIAM SAMUEL ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Ms DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with my deepest thanks and sincere appreciation that I rise today to recognize William Samuel, the Director of Government Affairs at the AFL-CIO, as family, friends, and colleagues gather to wish him well as he marks his retirement from a decades long career fighting on behalf of America's working families. Bill has been an extraordinary leader, advocate and friend. And, while I have no doubt that he will continue to stay engaged, the AFL-CIO and the labor movement will not be the same without him.

A graduate of Oberlin College and the George Washington University Law Center, Bill knew early on that he wanted to focus his professional life on labor law. He began his career as a legislative representative for the National Treasury Employees Union and the American Federation of Government Employees, representing federal employees across a multitude of agencies.

Bill went on to serve as the chief lobbyist at the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA). At the time, the UMWA had not found its voice and he helped to turn that around. For Bill, the fight to ensure safe working conditions, fair wages, and secure health and retirement benefits has always been a core value. It is his deep commitment to those values that have

guided his career. That was perhaps most profoundly exemplified as Bill led the successful effort to pass federal legislation guaranteeing lifetime health benefits to hundreds of thousands of retired miners and their dependents. In doing so, he quite literally changed their lives.

In 1995, Bill transitioned to federal service when he joined the Clinton Administration, serving as associate deputy secretary of labor under Secretaries Robert Reich and Alexis Herman. In 2000, Bill became senior policy adviser to Vice President Al Gore, a role in which he was both a principal adviser on labor policy issues and liaison to organized labor. This professional diversion allowed him the opportunity to shape and implement policies that he had long advocated for.

Following his federal service, Bill returned to the labor movement, joining the AFL-CIO where he served as the Director of Government Affairs for nearly twenty-five years. Made up of 55 affiliated unions and representing more than 12.5 million working Americans, it takes a unique combination of organization, insight, and leadership to work with such various entities to create a unified message and agenda. Bill has a unique talent for building consensus—a skill set which he has used throughout his career. Coordinating with each member union, engaging with leadership as well as rank and file, while also providing guidance and advocacy to Congressional Members and staff, Bill has built a distinguished reputation with all those who have had the opportunity to work with him. I, like many others, am so grateful to have benefited from his expertise and counsel. I thank him for that as well as his many years of friendship and support.

In a professional career that has spanned more than six decades, Bill Samuel has left an indelible mark on the labor movement in America. Many of those whose lives have been improved by his work will never meet or know Bill. Throughout his career he has been a champion for working Americans, standing up time and time again to protect their rights to safe working conditions, fair and livable wages, as well as secure health and retirement benefits. Today, as he marks his retirement, I extend my heartfelt congratulations and deepest thanks to Bill for his outstanding service. My very best wishes to him, his wife, Tracy, and his children Jack and Lucy, for many more years of health and happiness as he begins this new life chapter.

MARRIAGE OF AMAN CHANDI AND UDHAY KAHLON

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the union of my constituents and good friends, Aman Chandi and Udhay Kahlon, two individuals whose relationship began by chance and has grown into a commitment rooted in their shared traditions and love. With genuine happiness, I offer them my congratulations on their engagement and upcoming marriage.

At an airport surrounded by travelers, Aman and Udhay met by chance, and were encouraged to pursue one another by friends and

family. Their connection grew over dinner conversations, during which they discovered their common values, dreams, and goals.

Their relationship, developed through many hours of video calls and meaningful conversations, blossomed into love. This was formally recognized at a three-day Roka event, which ended with a proposal confirming their commitment. Aman and Udhay's experience shows that love can find us when we least expect it.

As we look forward to their wedding, we are reminded of the rich cultural heritage that their union celebrates. From the vibrant colors of the Mehndi event to the Sangeet ceremony, where music and laughter pave the way for unforgettable memories, their celebrations vividly represent tradition and modernity. The Haldi, Choora, and the sacred Anand Karaj ceremonies hold deep significance, marking the beginning of their life with blessings, happiness, and the promise of a bright future.

The marriage of Aman and Udhay signifies not just the union of two individuals, but the coming together of two families with shared values of hard work, community, and ambition. This union is set to expand upon these legacies, creating the foundation of a new chapter that promises to enrich their communities further and inspire future generations through a blend of tradition, integrity, and shared goals.

Mr. Speaker, as Aman and Udhay stand on the brink of their future, they do so with the support of their families, the blessings of their traditions, and the love that has brought them together. In celebrating Aman and Udhay, we celebrate the beauty of coming together, the strength of familial bonds, and the promise of a future filled with love, happiness, and prosperity.

On behalf of California's 25th District, I extend my warmest wishes to Aman, Udhay, and their families. May their union be blessed with love, laughter, and a lifetime of happiness. As they begin their shared future, let us celebrate the love that has brought them together.

Congratulations to Aman and Udhay. May their story inspire all, and their lives together be filled with joy and fulfillment.

RECOGNIZING AISYSS AMAYA

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

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

Aisyss 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 Aisyss, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Aisyss's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

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

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Mr. McHENRY. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to cast my votes for H.R. 4866 and H.R. 4755. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 153, and YEA on Roll Call No. 154.

HONORING MARTHA "PATSEY" BROCKETT WAKEFIELD

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution and their effort to commemorate the men and women who achieved American independence, realizing that those Patriots believed in the noble cause of liberty and served valiantly to found a new nation.

More directly, I would like to acknowledge cooperative spirit of the Flower Mound, Benjamin Lyon, Cross Timbers, Captain Molly Corbin, Peters Colony, and Shawnee Trail Chapters of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution who have united to promote America's upcoming 250th birthday and endeavor to convey its relevance to our society. This cooperative spirit honors the tradition begun by the pioneers who settled the southern community of Denton County, now known as Copper Canyon.

On Saturday, April 27, 2024, the Flower Mound Chapter met to hold an official grave marking and dedication honoring Martha "Patsey" Brockett Wakefield (1797–1873), one of Denton County's early matriarchs, with an official grave marking and dedication at Chinn's Chapel Cemetery in Copper Canyon, Denton County, Texas.

As the youngest daughter of Revolutionary War Patriot William Ebenezer Brockett, born in 1797, Martha Brockett married Henry Wakefield, Jr. in January of 1817. Henry Wakefield, Jr. was the son of Revolutionary War Patriot Henry Wakefield, himself the offspring of Revolutionary War Patriot Charles Wakefield.

In 1853 Henry Wakefield, Jr. and his wife, Martha "Patsey" Brockett Wakefield, moved with their large family to 320 acres of land Henry purchased for \$320 in Denton County, Texas. In 1859, Silas Wakefield and his brother Simpson Burke Wakefield, two of Henry and Martha "Patsey's" 11 children, and among 9 who survived into adulthood, each purchased adjoining land grants of 160 acres nearby. Located on land purchased by Simpson, the Denton County Town of Waketon was named after the family.

Simpson's wife, Jane, with two other women, and Mary Stowe Chinn, founded Chinn's Chapel Methodist Church, believed to be the oldest church and school in Denton County.

Originally named Antioch, the chapel was built from donated logs provided by settlers visiting the nearby Lockhart Spring. In 1858 the community came together and assembled

the logs into the cabin structure that served as a church, school and as a temporary shelter for new settlers as they built their own homes. As settlers died from various causes, the settlers were frequently buried near the log cabin chapel. When Simpson and Jane Wakefield died a month apart in 1861, they were among the early burials in the Chinn's Chapel Cemetery.

The Christians worshipping in the log cabin were offered the service of a Methodist circuit rider preacher who would arrive regularly about once every three months. They sought membership in the Texas Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church and were admitted in 1872. They renamed the log cabin "Chinn's Chapel Methodist Church" in honor of the Chinn Family. Early day camp meetings were held each August in the valley below, an area that served as a campground for meetings at the Chinn Chapel Campground. The road beside it was part of the main road from Southern Denton County to the County seat and was called Chinn's Chapel Road. The area became well known in Denton County as the Chinn's Chapel Community, still recognized today with The Chinn's Chapel Log Cabin still standing in the Chinn's Chapel Cemetery on what is now known as Chinn Chapel Road.

The legacy of Martha "Patsey" is still evident today in the familiar Southern Denton landmarks that bear the names of her son and the efforts of her daughter-in-law and the Chinn family with whom they shared the values of the pioneer farming families: a love of family, God, and country; a spirit of community cooperation; practical problem solving with a know-how that comes from living on the land; and a respect for the richness and beauty of the rural Texas landscape.

On behalf of the 26th Congressional District of Texas, I honor Martha "Patsey" Brockett Wakefield and her spirit, exemplifying the fortitude and gratitude that are the foundations of Southern Denton County. Her descendants have left their imprint on this community for the over one million residents of this County they established, and I recognize their important role in establishing their rich history and the North Texas quality of life we are grateful to share.

HONORING WILLIAM C. TOOMBS

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor WWII veteran and Arkansas Native, Mr. William Toombs, who will soon celebrate his 100th birthday.

Mr. Toombs served as a flight engineer gunner on both B17s and B24s with the 493rd bomb group of the 8th Army Air Force, also known as the "Mighty 8th."

He flew his first mission on June 6, 1944—D-Day—and went on to carry out over twenty successful missions.

For his heroism, Toombs was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, as well as several Air Medals and foreign decorations. In 2021, he was inducted into the Arkansas Military Veterans Hall of Fame.

Mr. Toombs has been an active spokesman for the "Mighty 8th," sharing their story in numerous interviews, and has continued to serve