

HomeFront programs, providing home and case management services for individuals for up to two years. These initiatives are crucial in ensuring that Central Valley veterans receive the care and support they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the WestCare Foundation on their 50-year anniversary. Their work to improve access to healthcare in the Central Valley will be felt for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING ANDRES SANCHEZ-RUBIO

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Andres Sanchez-Rubio for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Andres 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 Andres, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Andres'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 Andres Sanchez-Rubio on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF WEST BRANCH HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1964

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 60th reunion of the West Branch High School Class of 1964 and honor the 134th anniversary of the West Branch High School Alumni Association.

Sixty years ago, the West Branch High School Class of 1964 graduated with 88 students who went on to lead by example through their knowledge, skills, sacrifices, and perseverance. Our community takes immense pride in the West branch class of '64, as we salute and pay tribute to the military Veterans for their brave and honorable service to our Nation. During the Vietnam era and beyond, 50 percent of the male graduates from the class of '64 went on to serve in the United States military.

Accomplishments shared by the West Branch High School Class of 1964 attest to the lasting, positive impact that educators made on their lives and to the strength of friendships that have endured for decades, leaving a legacy that Michiganders across the 1st District can be proud of. I also recognize the West Branch High School Alumni Association on the occasion of its 134th anniversary, underscoring the dedicated leadership and significant efforts that have been made to keep the Alumni Association active and vital, long after the school closed 55 years ago.

I'm confident that the legacy of the school will continue to live on through "The Orioles Forever West Branch High School Alumni Endowment Fund," established in 2006 to perpetually provide scholarships to graduating seniors from the West Branch—Rose City Schools who are continuing their education.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize and celebrate the 60th reunion of the West Branch High School Class of 1964, as well as the 134th anniversary of the West Branch High School Alumni Association. I wish everyone the best in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SUNNY GURPREET SINGH FOR ALL HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Sunny Gurpreet Singh for his lifetime of work focused on wellbeing and holistic health.

Mr. Singh grew up in Punjab, India where he developed a passion for the environment and its relationship with human wellbeing. His upbringing emphasized the importance of nature, which eventually inspired him to pursue a master's degree at Montana State University. During his studies, he took advantage of Montana's natural beauty and made the connection between environment and personal well-being. This led him to a career focused on healthcare and creating pathways for people to reconnect with nature.

The link between the environment and health inspired Mr. Singh to start a company and develop programs that would make his philosophy accessible to anyone who was interested. He worked to improve healthcare delivery for patients, caregivers, and professionals and implement a proactive wellness approach. He also created a tool to assist people in making positive, long-term changes to enhance their lives.

Mr. Singh continues to give back to his community through various initiatives focused on increasing access for underserved communities to athletics, education, women's empowerment, and environmental protection. This philanthropic work has helped shape the way people view the environment and take care of themselves.

Roundglass Sustain, Mr. Singh's environmental philanthropic arm, has worked to document biodiversity in India and has campaigned to promote environmental conservation and showcase the planet's wildlife diversity through thousands of photos and videos that have reached millions of people.

Additionally, Mr. Singh developed the Roundglass India Center initiative based in Seattle University. The Center serves as a bridge between Seattle and India through their events and collaborations. He has helped students from Punjab pursue a legal education at Seattle University's School of Law through the Center's Punjab Scholarship. The Center also funds research that is aimed at gaining insights into the major challenges confronting societies today and promotes conversations on regional and national social and economic transformations for India.

Sunny Singh's life is the embodiment of the American Dream. As a fellow immigrant from India, I am deeply honored to commemorate Sunny Singh's significant contributions and accomplishments. Mr. Sunny Gurpreet Singh has empowered and uplifted countless individuals across the United States and India, and it is for that impact, Mr. Speaker, that I wish to extend my gratitude and appreciation to Sunny Gurpreet Singh.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ELK RUN BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Elk Run Baptist Church.

Today, I am honored to celebrate the Elk Run Baptist Church community, which since 1874 has built a legacy of service. The community first met under a chestnut tree located near the home of the late Deacon Henry Spotswood, Sr. in Madison County, Virginia. Soon after, Reverend Frank Tibbs became the church's first pastor.

Through the decades, Elk Run Baptist Church has faced trying times, such as a fire in 1954 that destroyed the church and displaced congregants for two years. However, in the face of adversity, this resilient community responded with tenacity and devotion. Today, Elk Run Baptist Church is known for having a welcoming and service-minded congregation that continues to provide support to its members through its worship and programming.

Elk Run Baptist Church has been a steadfast pillar of hope for Madison County and its residents. Under the current leadership of Reverend Maurice Evans, Elk Run Baptist Church has continued to have a positive impact on the Madison County community—from partnering with Virginia Food Ministry to feed the community to making sure their church is a safe haven for all who need it.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating Elk Run Baptist Church on their 150th anniversary. I am honored to represent the families and individuals who make up the Elk Run Baptist Church community and look forward to celebrating their continued success for years to come.

RECOGNIZING CAITLEN RULIFFSON

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

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

Caitlen 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 Caitlen, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

This award is a testament to Caitlen'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 Caitlen Ruliffson on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING COLONEL JAMES
COLLINS

HON. NANCY MACE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements of Colonel James Collins' service as the Chief, House Liaison Division, Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison, where he was responsible for the liaison between the Army and the United States House of Representatives. A truly outstanding leader of impeccable character, Colonel Collins skillfully managed an office that played a vital role in advancing the Army's interests while maintaining effective relationships with the 117th and 118th Congress during a critical time in our Nation's history.

Under Colonel Collins' leadership, the House Liaison Division conducted numerous outreach events to enhance congressional trust and confidence during two National Defense Authorization Act legislative cycles. The House Liaison Team was instrumental during MLA luncheons and enabled countless engagements that provided members and staff the opportunity to speak directly with Army Senior Leaders from both the Secretariat and Army Staff.

Colonel Collins was instrumental in enhancing the Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison within the Army Secretariat and Headquarters, Department of the Army Staff, as well as the Army's standing with the U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize and commend Colonel Collins' personal example, commitment to excellence, and exemplary performance of duty that reflects distinct credit upon himself, the Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison, and the United States Army. We bid Colonel Collins farewell and best wishes in his next assignment as the Citadel's Professor of Military Science.

RECOGNIZING CHRISTINA
SCHEPPELMANN'S CONTRIBU-
TIONS TO THE ARTS

HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Christina Scheppelmann, who is stepping down after five years of service as the General Director of Seattle Opera.

Seattle Opera thrived under Christina's leadership. Her passion for the performing arts will undoubtedly leave a mark on the City of Seattle for years to come. In the process of navigating a global pandemic that halted over two years of in-house performances, Christina led Seattle Opera to be able to deliver the entirety

of its programming during the 2020–2021 season by recording performances for patrons to stream online. She helped hire artists to present free, online performances and expand virtual educational programming for youth and Veterans. When pandemic restrictions began to partially lift in 2021, Christina committed to offering Seattle Opera's first celebratory outdoor rendition of "Die Walkure" by Richard Wagner.

Throughout her tenure, Christina forged a deep commitment to community engagement as well as diversity, equity and inclusion. Under her leadership, the Seattle Opera presented a number of works by and about people of color. The productions included "Blue", a story about a Black family that draws strength from their community in the face of a police killing and "Bound", a story about a daughter of Vietnamese immigrants, as well as A Thousand Splendid Suns and X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X. In all of these productions, she engaged the community through Advisory Boards, outreach to the specific communities represented in the productions, and nonprofit organizations working on the issues. Her goal, in her words to me, was that these productions "showcase how Seattle Opera is keeping relevant stories centered on-stage."

In 2020, she led Seattle Opera to launch its Racial Equity and Social Impact plan. The effort contributed toward hiring a diverse staff and brought over 100 new artists from around the world to debut performances. Her addition of community programs such as the Jane Lang Davis Creation Lab and the Seattle Arts Fellowship—will serve as trademark opportunities for underrepresented communities to build careers in the arts.

Christina's leadership at the Seattle Opera exemplifies the need for all of us in the United States to ensure we support the arts and the unique ability arts have to add positively to our society. As Christina moves on from her role at the end of the 2023–24 season to lead La Monnaie De Munt in Brussels, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating her many accomplishments and contributions to Seattle Opera. On behalf of Washington's 7th Congressional District, I thank Christina for her service to the people of the Pacific Northwest and dedication to the performing arts.

HONORING SUELLEN BRILL
BRAZIL

HON. JERRY L. CARL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Mr. CARL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Suellen Brill Brazil, a resident of Daphne, Alabama, as she is inaugurated as the 55th International President of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC). This ceremony will take place on July 1, 2024, in Chicago, Illinois.

She is the first International President from Alabama in GFWC's 134-year history, and she will serve in this capacity from 2024 to 2026. Her leadership theme, "Educate, Engage, Empower," aims to encourage meaningful discussions, provide skills, and promote action. Suellen brings over 50 years of experience in various leadership roles, characterized by enthusiasm and dedication. GFWC, a global vol-

unteer service organization, focuses on issues like domestic violence, food insecurity, and education.

Suellen has been active in her local community, especially in addressing domestic violence and supporting the vulnerable. Professionally, Suellen concluded a 44-year career as an Elementary Administrator, managing schools and students. She is also active in her church and is a proud mother and grandmother. Suellen's presidency represents a significant milestone for GFWC, bringing her wealth of experience and dedication to furthering its mission of community service and empowerment.

We are so grateful for all she has done for Alabama's First Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING MONICA TELLES
RODRIGUEZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

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

Monica 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 Monica, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Monica'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 Monica Telles Rodriguez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SHERIFF
ROY WHITEAKER

HON. DOUG LAMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and public service career of Sutter County Sheriff Roy Whiteaker who recently passed away at the age of 84 years old.

Roy was born in Calico Rock, Arkansas, to Corbin and Irene Whiteaker. From a young age, Roy displayed a strong sense of duty and integrity, traits that would guide him throughout his life and career.

Roy would join the United States Army in 1959, where he would become a military policeman beginning his law enforcement career. While in the Army, Roy was stationed in Panama for nearly three years, where he would marry his wife.

The young family would then move to Yuba City in 1962, where Roy would continue his law enforcement career with the City of Yuba City Police Department, being hired as the City's first narcotics Detective. He would also be instrumental in helping to organize the first Yuba-Sutter Narcotics Task Force.

Roy would then run for Sutter County Sheriff serving from 1971 to 1990; when he was first