

Toledo has long been at the forefront of the election of women to public office, starting with the election of Pauline Steinem to the board of education in 1904, the first woman elected any office in the city. Many years later, in 1990 Toledo Public Schools would once again prove itself a progressive agent for change with the appointment of Dr. Crystal Ellis, a longtime educator, as the first African-American Superintendent.

In addition to academic excellence, vocational and college preparatory training, Toledo Public Schools' students have won praise on the athletic field as well. From its beginnings, when Scott High School was declared the national football champs in 1916 and subsequent years, Toledo Public Schools have boasted many powerhouse athletic teams. At the same time, leading citizens in our community trace part of their success to the lessons learned in Toledo Public Schools.

Reflecting the general population growth during the baby boom generation, Toledo Public Schools saw its highest numbers of both schools and students during the 1960s. Even now, it remains one of the area's largest employers and the fourth largest school district in the State of Ohio. Today, Toledo Public Schools is led by Dr. Romulus Durant, himself a product of Toledo Public Schools, who ably leads the school district's navigation in the 21st Century, declaring students, teachers, parents, administrators, and community to be "TPS Proud."

Toledo Public Schools is the core of our city. Graduates of years past, present and future are tied to one another with an invisible thread with memories and experience connecting them.

In the Fall of 1967, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. visited the student at Scott High School, delivering inspiring oratory. Since its inception 175 years ago, Toledo Public Schools has delivered on the promise of words Dr. King once spoke when he explained, "The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education." As Toledo Public Schools marches TPS Proud into the next years, that goal remains strong. Onward.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present during Roll Call vote No. 186 on May 7, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted YES.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MATTHEW B. RETTIG

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to Dr. Matthew B. Rettig, Medical Director of the Prostate Cancer Program at the David Geffen School of Medi-

cine at the University of California, Los Angeles and Chief of Hematology-Oncology at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Greater Los Angeles, on receiving the Department of Veterans Affairs' Office of Clinical Science Research and Development John B. Barnwell Award in recognition of his significant contributions to the field of prostate cancer diagnosis and treatment.

Dr. Rettig began his Veterans Affairs (VA) career as a staff physician in the Division of Hematology-Oncology at the VA Greater Los Angeles Health Care System in 1996. He became a leader within the department, and his unwavering commitment to improving health outcomes for veterans diagnosed with prostate cancer led to the development of the VA Precision Oncology Program Cancer of the Prostate (POPCaP) network. Dr. Rettig is credited for fostering the partnership between the VA and Prostate Cancer Foundation (PCF), which has resulted in the PCF committing \$50M to support this program and expanding services to over 20 centers across the nation to meet the critical care needs of American veterans with prostate cancer.

Along with his leadership of the Prostate Cancer Program, Dr. Rettig is also a Professor of Medicine and Urology at UCLA where he is training the next generation of clinicians and researchers. Dr. Rettig has dedicated himself to the future of the field, having generously mentored and trained over 31 residents, fellows, post-doctoral scholars, and junior faculty in veteran-centered clinical research, a majority of whom continue to serve the VA to meet the healthcare needs of veterans while also conducting their own independent cutting-edge research in various disciplines. The impact of his work is far-reaching and truly immeasurable.

Dr. Rettig is ranked among the top ten clinical investigators nationally both within and outside of the VA and is a major asset for the VA and the veterans they serve. His expertise and achievements in genitourinary oncology and research are evidenced by invitations to serve on local and national committees and boards including the VA National GU Cancer Working Group Steering Committee, Brentwood Biomedical Research Institute, Greater LA Research & Education Foundation, Department of Defense, and the Prostate Cancer Foundation, among many others. Additionally, he serves on an editorial capacity for 13 scientific and medical journals.

It is with great honor that I congratulate Dr. Rettig upon receiving the Barnwell Award, the highest honor conferred by the VA Clinical Science Research and Development Service, in recognition of outstanding scientific achievements in clinical research. I ask that all Members join me in congratulating Dr. Rettig on his award and his service to our Nation's veterans.

RECOGNIZING SUSIE BELL

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Susie Bell of Cañon City for being inducted into the Fremont Hall of Fame.

Susie was a pillar in Fremont County and spent decades improving the community be-

fore her passing in November of 2022. Her many philanthropic contributions and hours of volunteer work continue to have a transformative impact on students and so many others in Fremont County.

Susie was committed to advancing education—she built several scholarships for current and future learners, supported early childhood development programs, and donated and volunteered for many events to promote the arts. Her tireless work and dedication to Fremont County did not go unnoticed. She will be missed, but her contributions will last for generations.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Susie Bell for being inducted into Fremont Hall of Fame and thank her for her contribution and commitment to our community.

RECOGNIZING THE 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DOSS SCHOOL

HON. CHIP ROY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the one-hundred fortieth anniversary of the Doss School in Gillespie County, Texas. It is the longest continually running school in the State and is located northwest of Fredericksburg.

Alumni, faculty, and students of the Doss School will gather to celebrate this milestone on May 18, 2024. Its motto is "The small school with a big heart."

School board president Cecil Crenwelge had this to say about the occasion, "The history behind Doss School is truly remarkable. As we celebrate the incredible history of the school and its many alumni, we also have an eye to the future that is very bright."

The original building for Doss School was officially designated a Texas Historic Landmark in 1985. The first classes at Doss School began in 1884. Mr. Tom Nixon donated land for the construction of a school building. Upon completion, students at Squaw Creek and Onion Creek schools merged with Doss and shared the new building. The school further expanded with a new building in 1927.

I would like to thank the Friends of Doss School for preserving local history and this community treasure. I wish the students and faculty of Doss School well in the upcoming school year.

HONORING JUDGE DEAN A. COLVIN'S SERVICE TO MARSHALL COUNTY, INDIANA

HON. RUDY YAKYM, III

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate my friend and fellow Hoosier Judge Dean Colvin of Marshall County Superior Court No. 2 as he prepares to retire this coming September after more than 37 years of serving on the bench.

Born and raised in Marshall County, Judge Colvin's distinguished career in public service

goes back 50 years to 1974. Starting out as a special deputy with the Marshall County Sheriff's Department, a Plymouth Police Officer, Investigator with the Marshall County Prosecutor's Office, and Deputy Attorney General for the State of Indiana. Dean was appointed to serve the citizens of Marshall County as judge in 1986. In that time, Judge Colvin has dedicated himself to advancing the principles of justice and ensuring Hoosiers get a fair shake before the law.

The Rule of Law tradition we have inherited helps secure individual liberty and promotes the conditions necessary for human flourishing. It is incumbent on us to do our part to make sure these principles of justice and Rule of Law precepts are passed seamlessly from one generation to the next. That mission is one Judge Colvin has embraced wholeheartedly and worked tirelessly to advance throughout his career.

As Judge Colvin's career comes to a close, I am reminded of the saying "I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him." I believe this quote applies uniquely well to Judge Colvin. The Plymouth community and all of Marshall County are unquestionably better off thanks to this good man with a servant's heart. I am also very happy for him personally in that with his upcoming retirement, Dean will have more time to devote to his three great passions in life in addition to his family: baseball, cars, and cooking.

I join Hoosiers throughout Indiana's Second Congressional District in expressing our gratitude to Judge Dean Colvin for his service, and in wishing him a very happy retirement and all the best going forward. I thank Dean.

RECOGNIZING MR. EFRAIN CASILLAS

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable contributions of Mr. Efrain Casillas, the Coordinator of Music Programs for the Tolleson Elementary School District in Tolleson, Arizona. For the past 24 years, Mr. Casillas has dedicated himself to the education and enrichment of his students, serving as a public-school music teacher and imparting his passion for music to countless young minds. Mr. Casillas' own journey exemplifies what it means to break through barriers to achieve success through dedication and commitment. Mr. Casillas has beaten the odds and was named the Arizona Teacher of the Year in 2024 by the Arizona Educational Foundation, representing the state of Arizona at the national level among many more recognitions.

Mr. Casillas has had a profound impact on countless students, pioneering innovative music programs, including the district's first Mariachi, Jazz, Marching, Concert, and Latin Jazz bands. As a native of Puerto Rico, Mariachi was not part of his musical heritage, but Casillas made it a priority to learn it because it is part of the culture of many of his students who are native to Mexico.

Under Mr. Casillas' guidance, the Mariachi band has secured multiple awards, including

the Tucson Mariachi International Conference Choice Awards for three consecutive years. Notably, his dedication led to the Mariachi band performing at the 2024 Annual White House Easter Egg Roll event and the marching band proudly participating in the Disneyland Parade. Additionally, Mr. Casillas directed the Tolleson Elementary School marching band in the Fiesta Bowl Parade for three consecutive years. Mr. Casillas' commitment and talent have garnered numerous accolades and awards, including being named the Tolleson Elementary School District Teacher of the Year in 2015 and nominated for the Life Changer of the Year Award in 2017. He has also received the Esperanza Award from Chicanos Por La Causa and Arizona's Esperanza Latino Teacher Awards in 2018, along with the 2019 Music Teacher of Excellence Foundation Award by the Country Music Association. Furthermore, he was honored with the Music Teachers of Excellence from the Country Music Foundation Award (CMF) in 2020 and featured on the Kelly Clarkson Show.

Mr. Casillas' dedication to music education and advocacy for public education were further recognized when he received the Phoenix Arts Hero Award in 2022. Mr. Casillas' commitment to music education extends beyond the classroom, as he is an active member of many notable and impactful organizations. He has also served as a presenter for the National Symposium of Multicultural Music at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville in 2004 and as a clinician for the 2024 Tolleson High School Honors Mariachi Music Festival.

The highest honor Mr. Casillas has received is having many of his former students return to assist in the music program as teachers or instructors. His impact is now extending to more students.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Mr. Efrain Casillas for his unwavering dedication to music education, his outstanding achievements as a teacher, and his tireless advocacy for public education. His passion, talent, and leadership have enriched the lives of countless students and inspired us all. I join my colleagues in expressing our deepest appreciation for Mr. Casillas' contributions and in wishing him continued success in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING ROSS FREEMAN FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO SCIENCE

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Ross Freeman for his historic contributions to the Scientific and Technological communities.

One of the UP's very own, Mr. Freeman grew up on a farm near Engadine. He graduated from Michigan State University in 1969 and received his master's degree from the University of Illinois in 1971.

Mr. Freeman invented the Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA), a computer chip which revolutionized programming as we know it. The FPGA created what came to be known as "open gates," which allowed engineers brand new reprogramming capabilities to adapt to changing standards and specifica-

tions and make last second changes to designs.

Mr. Freeman further revolutionized the tech industry with his unique hypotheses and worked to make those customizable chips affordable for everyone.

His incredible life was unfortunately cut short at the age of 41, not long after his vision for the future began taking shape. However, his contributions to society are immense and will be remembered by proud Yoopers all across our great state.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Ross Freeman for his contributions to both the Scientific Community and our Nation as a whole.

RECOGNIZING BRYAN SANTILLAN

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

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

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

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 2024 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 15

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Defense

To hold hearings to examine select Department of Defense acquisition programs.

SD-192