

## RECOGNIZING JAMES DINICOLA

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2024*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions made to our community by one of my constituents, James DiNicola, through his volunteerism with local non-profits. As a Korean War veteran approaching his 90th birthday, James embodies the essence of unwavering dedication to community service and a selfless commitment to others. James's years of service in the Army during the Korean War laid the foundation for a lifetime dedicated to volunteering. Currently, he devotes his time to four non-profit organizations: One Community Now, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, and Holy Spirit Episcopal Church. At One Community Now, James is a cornerstone of Operation Stand Down, where he assists with bike transportation for veterans, contributes to maintenance work, and provides invaluable encouragement to younger veterans navigating their challenges. His active involvement in the annual Pack the Park event reflects his dedication to the community, handling pumpkin pickups and managing food donations for hungry children. With over six years of unwavering commitment to One Community Now, James stands as a testament to steadfast volunteerism. For 3 1/2 years, James has been an indispensable volunteer at Sleep in Heavenly Peace, assembling beds for children and personally delivering them to their homes. His service extends to his church, where he selflessly aids in setting up for funerals, tends to landscaping, and tackles various maintenance jobs. In his community and family, James serves as a mentor, dog walker, and a source of encouragement to everyone he encounters. Remarkably, Jim still dedicates 20 hours a week as the maintenance person at Blue Jay Estates in Clearwater. James DiNicola's tireless and selfless service, notwithstanding his age, epitomizes the true spirit of heroism and community dedication. His unwavering desire to be a genuine servant for the glory of God resonates in every aspect of his volunteering. James is an inspiration to everyone he serves with, consistently maintaining a supportive and positive attitude.

It is clear that Mr. DiNicola has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service.

## RECOGNIZING BISHOP ROBERT D. TAYLOR'S SERVICE AND APPOINTMENT TO BISHOP

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2024*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bishop Robert Delano Taylor Sr. on the occasion of his appointment to Bishop of the Southwest Michigan Agape Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Church of God in Christ. His significant service to his congregation, ministry, and community is worthy of commendation.

Bishop Robert D. Taylor has served as the pastor for Glad Tidings Church in Detroit,

Michigan since 1987. In this role he has been a beacon for the community, epitomizing the values of life-long service and dedication. Bishop Taylor has touched so many lives during his time at the Glad Tidings Church and beyond. During his career, he established the Robert D. Taylor Ministries, where personal growth and transformation is emphasized. The mission here is focused on creating lasting change, not only in the community but also on the global scale. This noble work has a positive, lasting influence on its members and the greater community, and is truly inspiring. Under Bishop Taylor's leadership, the Glad Tidings Church has served as a pillar in the Detroit community. Their message reaches so many, especially considering the church has a live-stream option, allowing those who cannot be physically present to join in the mass. This church serves the wider community as well, including providing free clothing for those who are in need.

Notably, on November 17, 2023, Bishop Taylor was elevated and appointed to Bishop for the Southwest Michigan Agape Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Church of God in Christ. This tremendous accomplishment is well deserved and serves as a testament to Bishop Taylor's distinguished career of service. This appointment reinforces how influential Bishop Taylor's faithful career has been and elevates him to a position where he will be able to serve with even greater range. In this office, Bishop Taylor will continue to serve Glad Tidings Church as well as the wider ministry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Bishop Taylor for his lifetime of public service. His commitment to his faith, community, and mission is truly inspiring. I join Bishop Taylor's family, friends, and congregation in extending my best wishes to him during his transition in his service, where I am sure he will continue to serve his community faithfully well into the future.

## HONORING KEVIN LYNCH

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2024*

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Kevin Lynch on his retirement from National Industries for the Blind (NIB) after serving in various positions within NIB for more than 30 years. For the last 15 years, Kevin has served as president of the organization. When you include his work for two of the nonprofit agencies within the NIB network prior to coming to NIB, his career within the program has spanned 40 years helping to create employment opportunities for people who are blind.

I am fortunate to have the headquarters of NIB located in Alexandria, Virginia, within the Congressional District I represent. I have enjoyed opportunities to visit with Kevin and leaders of associated nonprofit agencies over the year.

Through its network of associated nonprofit agencies, NIB is the largest employer of people who are blind in the country. NIB notes that they "create opportunities for people who are blind to become wage earners and taxpayers, reducing their reliance on government support and increasing engagement with their communities." I sincerely appreciate these ef-

forts and the critical work NIB does to empower the blind community in Northern Virginia and across the country.

I would like to thank Kevin Lynch for his leadership at NIB and his long career in creating jobs for people who are blind. I wish him well in his retirement and honor his legacy over the last 40 years.

## RECOGNIZING NORMALEE LEE

**HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2024*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Normalee Lee of Arvada, Colorado for winning the Arvada Chamber of Commerce's Image Award.

Normalee has spent years working to make Jefferson County a better and safer place to live. She has volunteered in all divisions of the Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association and is a former Chairperson and longstanding volunteer for the Arvada Police Department. Additionally, she helped make the annual Bike Rodeo event run with Apex Parks and Recreation District a success. Arvada Chamber Image Award winners are selected for the positive image of Arvada they portray within the community, and Normalee has done just that.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional district, it is my honor to congratulate Normalee Lee on winning this award and thank her for her service to our community.

## RECOGNIZING CATHERINE SCHELAND

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2024*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions made to our community by one of my constituents, Catherine Scheland, has exemplified outstanding dedication and selflessness as a volunteer with a local non-profit, One Community Now. Cathy plays a pivotal role in the organization's Veterans program, serving as a team leader for Operation Stand Down. Her commitment is truly commendable, dedicating over 180 hours each year to the event's setup, overseeing the Chaplains' area, and co-directing the transportation area. Beyond the event, Cathy personally delivers bicycles to veterans in need throughout the year, using her own resources to provide locks and lights. She serves as a mentor, offering support and using her own funds to assist homeless veterans with housing. In the organization's Pack A Sack initiative to fight childhood hunger, Cathy is also actively involved, ensuring children have food every weekend of the year. She not only contributes her time but also financially supports the program. Cathy's engagement extends to the agency's annual Pack the Park fundraiser, where she plays a vital role in securing sponsors, donations, and volunteers. Cathy's dedication isn't confined to our One Community Now; she volunteers with other

non-profits and actively participates in her church. Her strong faith, character, and compassionate heart make her a hero in our community. Additionally, Cathy's role as a prayer warrior and her unwavering support for those in need further showcase her exceptional qualities.

It is clear that Ms. Scheland has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2024*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be physically present for all votes on May 8th. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 194, and YEA on Roll Call No. 195.

#### HONORING ANNETTE WOLF'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2024*

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Annette Wolf for her milestone 100th birthday celebrated on April 1, 2024. Annette has been a resident of Boynton Beach, Florida since 1999 and is a proud wife and mother to two great men. What a wonderful occasion for Annette, her family, and friends as she reminisces and celebrates a life great in years and rich in accomplishments.

Annette and her husband ran a corrugated box factory business in Upstate New York for several years. She started the Women's Business and Professional Organization in 1954 in Glens Falls, NY. Annette loves to socialize with her friends by playing Mah-Jongg and Canasta. She believes in doing everything in moderation and is an avid reader and regular viewer of MSNBC and CNN.

She has lived through extraordinary times in history and has no doubt witnessed remarkable changes unimaginable at the time of her birth in 1924. May this be a joyous time as her family and friends gather to celebrate this amazing milestone.

Annette always has a smile on her face and remains positive in all things. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to congratulate Ms. Annette Wolf on her 100th birthday and I wish her good health and great happiness.

#### RECOGNIZING MARK MCGOFF

### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2024*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mark McGoff of Arvada, Colorado for winning the Pioneer Award from the Arvada Chamber of Commerce.

Mark has proudly served his community in Arvada for years as a member of the City

Council, the Arvada Fire Board, and a volunteer for the Historical Society, Arvada Jefferson Kiwanis, and the Arvada Center. He is an Emeritus Board Member of the Ralston House and is currently working to plan Arvada's anniversary celebration this year.

The Pioneer Award is granted when a previous winner of the Man or Woman of the Year Award continues to perform notable work for the people of Arvada. Mark has done exactly that with his continual contributions to the community and longstanding dedication to public service.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Mark McGoff for winning the Pioneer Award. We thank him for his commitment to our community.

#### RECOGNIZING MIKE ORLITO

### HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2024*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions made to our community by one of my constituents, Mike Orlito, who has made an indelible mark as an impactful and influential volunteer for the Community Food Bank. Mike's dedication, passion, and tireless efforts are inspirational. From the moment Mike stepped through the doors of this organization, his commitment to alleviating hunger and supporting those in need has been unwavering. His willingness to go above and beyond in every task he undertakes exemplifies the true spirit of volunteerism and advocacy. One of Mike's most notable contributions is his leadership and promotion of the Community Food Bank within the community. Whether it's rallying local businesses, community groups, or donors, Mike has a remarkable ability to inspire others to join our fight against hunger. His strategic planning and effective communication skills have resulted in record-breaking donations, tremendous organizational growth, and increased awareness of food insecurity issues in our area. Beyond his efforts in advocacy, Mike lends his talents to the organization's Fundraising Committee, ensuring each event is a success. Mike always has a smile on his face and a genuine warmth in his heart, believing that we are all better together. His positive attitude is infectious and genuine. The empathy Mike demonstrates emulates the welcoming and inclusive environment that the Community Food Bank values and bases its mission upon. Mike also actively engages with local policymakers, participates in community forums, and raises awareness about the importance of addressing food insecurity. Through his efforts, Mike has helped to grow the Community Food Bank from a \$1.8 million operation to a \$5.1 million meal distribution hub for three counties in Florida.

It is clear that Mr. Orlito has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service.

RECOGNIZING COEN BREHMER'S  
FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL  
WEIGHTLIFTING CHAMPIONSHIP

### HON. AARON BEAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2024*

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Coen Brehmer, a Yulee High School Hornet who recently won the Florida High School weightlifting championships which is impressive at any age, but even more so as only a junior in high school.

Coen qualified for both the Olympic and traditional in the 119-pound weight class. At the state championship, Coen stung the competition, winning first in the Olympic lift and finishing second in traditional. He pulled off a 160-pound snatch, a 205-pound clean-and-jerk, and a 215-pound bench to bring home the gold. The victory was as sweet as honey and the crowd was buzzing at his magnificent displays of strength.

The Hornets, under the leadership of Coach Kyle Dougherty, performed incredibly well across the board this season. Coen's teammates, Zachary Kruger and Kevin Harris, also qualified for state after exceptional performances this season.

Coen is a fantastic representation of Northeast Florida. He is a kind friend and a great teammate. His hard work paid off and he became Yulee High School's first male state champion in any sport.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Florida's 4th Congressional District, I ask that my colleagues in Congress join me in congratulating Coen Brehmer on this remarkable achievement.

BRINGING AWARENESS TO THE  
EQUAL REPRESENTATION ACT,  
ISSUES SURROUNDING THE BORDER  
CRISIS, ANTISEMITISM AND  
ENERGY COSTS

### HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2024*

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following newsletter to give an update to my constituents to bring awareness to the Equal Representation Act in addition to issues surrounding the border crisis, anti-semitism and energy costs.

Dear Friend,

This week, I was successful in passing my fourth bill since serving in Congress, the Equal Representation Act.

Our democracy depends on electoral integrity, and that includes fair and equal representation of American citizens.

By requiring a citizenship question on the decennial census, the Equal Representation Act would make sure that only U.S. citizens—those who have the right to vote—are counted when apportioning the number of congressional seats and Electoral College votes that each state has.

Including non-citizens in the count when divvying up the number of congressional seats for each state weakens Americans' representation. In fact, the Center for Immigration Studies found that California has more congressional seats than the population would otherwise allow, and New York has