

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA MORSANI COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a significant milestone in the field of education, health care and community enrichment—the 50th anniversary of the University of South Florida (USF) Health Morsani College of Medicine. For half a century, this respected institution has been a beacon of innovation, excellence and service, shaping the future of medicine and health care in our community and beyond.

Founded in 1971, the USF Morsani College of Medicine has consistently demonstrated a steadfast commitment to educate the next generation of physicians, advance medical knowledge through cutting-edge research, and provide compassionate, patient-centered care to individuals and communities in need. As we mark the 50th anniversary of the graduating charter class in 2024, we reflect on the school's remarkable journey. Over the past five decades, it has not only met but exceeded its ambitious objectives, leaving an enduring impact on medical education and practice. From pioneering research to improving patient care, the Morsani College of Medicine has made its mark in the Tampa Bay community, shaping the landscape of health care for generations to come.

The contributions made by the Morsani College of Medicine to the field of medicine and health care are far reaching. Through its comprehensive academic programs, cutting-edge research facilities and collaborations with valued health care institutions like Tampa General Hospital, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, and local VA hospitals, the College has produced generations of highly skilled and compassionate medical professionals who made invaluable contributions to their respective fields. Whether in primary care, specialty medicine, or research, graduates of the College of Medicine have consistently exemplified the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, and excellence.

The Morsani College of Medicine plays a pivotal role in addressing the current doctor shortage crisis we are facing in Florida. After a population boom during the pandemic, the Tampa Bay area has a dire need for doctors. USF is meeting the moment by training high-caliber physicians, many of whom want to stay and practice in the state. Over the five decades since its inaugural graduating class, the USF Health Morsani College of Medicine has bestowed the prestigious medical degree upon nearly 5,100 graduates.

The impact of the Morsani College of Medicine extends far beyond the boundaries of its campus. Through its commitment to community engagement and service, the College has played a pivotal role in addressing the health care needs of my neighbors in Tampa Bay.

From providing essential health care services to vulnerable communities to spearheading groundbreaking research initiatives aimed at combating health disparities, the College of Medicine has remained committed in its dedication to improving the health and well-

being of all members of our community, regardless of their background or socioeconomic status.

As a proud co-founder and co-chair of the Academic Medicine Caucus, I am firmly dedicated to promoting and recognizing the important role that medical schools, teaching hospitals and faculty physicians play to improve the health of people everywhere. As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Morsani College of Medicine, let us not only reflect on its great past but also look ahead to a future filled with infinite potential and possibility. I will continue to support and nurture the Morsani College of Medicine as it embarks on its next chapter of excellence, innovation and service to our Tampa Bay neighbors, and the residents of Florida and the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending heartfelt congratulations to the University of South Florida Health Morsani School of Medicine on this momentous occasion. May the next 50 years be marked by even greater achievements, medical advancements, and the improvement of the lives of the residents of Florida and the United States.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF TOMMIE FRYE AND HIS SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND HIS COMMUNITY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Tommie Frye, a resident of Ypsilanti, Michigan and veteran of the Vietnam War, and to mourn his passing. His dedication to his country and local community over a long and exceptional life is worthy of commendation.

Tommie served honorably as a medic in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He met his wife, Sally Frye, at church while stationed at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio. After finishing his service, he worked at Ford until his retirement.

Throughout his life, Tommie gave much of his time, energy, and resources to Parkridge Community Center in Ypsilanti. He worked tirelessly with the young people in his community as a beloved mentor, helping to keep them away from trouble and steering them towards successful futures. His unwavering support as a donor and fundraiser was also vital to Parkridge Community Center's ability to continue operating as a pillar of support for the young people of Ypsilanti.

Tommie's faith was a crucial part of him. He was a member of Mt. Olive Church of God in Christ in Ypsilanti, Michigan for his entire life. He was a pillar of the Mt. Olive community, serving as a deacon, usher, and trustee. He lived out his faith in every aspect of his life through his service, generosity, love, and compassion for everyone around him. His faith in God gave him strength in his final days as he went to claim his eternal reward.

Tommie is survived and remembered by his loving wife Sally, to whom he was married for 52 years, his four children, and his thirteen grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the life of Tommie Frye.

Tommie was an incredible representation of answering our nation's highest calling. He served his country with honor in Vietnam and afterward throughout his local community, bringing joy, enthusiasm, and love to everyone he met along the way. We mourn with his loved ones and thank them for sharing Tommie with us.

HONORING THE FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTER-LEXINGTON

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Federal Medical Center, located in Lexington, Kentucky. David Paul serves as Warden and Keith Blanke is Associate Warden. They lead a large staff of dedicated individuals.

In 1935, the United States Narcotic Farm facility opened in the countryside outside of Lexington. Known as Narco, this facility's mission was to treat people struggling with addiction, using new and often experimental treatments. It was a combination prison and hospital with a research facility. Inmates worked on the farm that was located on the grounds. They also interacted with each other through playing music, taking painting classes, and participating in social activities. When it first opened, only men who were arrested for drug-related offenses were housed there; women were admitted in 1941.

In 1967, the farm portion of the operation closed, and the name of the facility was changed to the National Institute of Mental Health, Clinical Research Center. In 1974, the facility became a Federal prison and was named The Federal Medical Center, Lexington. Today, The Federal Medical Center, Lexington celebrates 50 years of service. The Center, operated by the Federal Bureau of Prisons, serves around 1500 inmates, who each require medical health care.

The Federal Medical Center serves an important role in our Nation's Department of Justice. I would like to offer my thanks and appreciation to each person employed by the Federal Medical Center.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO MICHELLE LOUIS

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Michelle Louis. Michelle Louis has spent the past 18 years smoothing the cancer journey for everyone who's walked through the doors of Cancer Support Community North Texas. As a clinical social worker, she joined the organization in 2006 providing comprehensive support to cancer patients free of charge. During her time working at the organization, she briefly served as Executive Director of Susan G. Komen for the Cure North Texas.

With 3 clubhouses located in Dallas, Tarrant, and Collin counties, Cancer Support

Community North Texas offers patients a sense of hope through support groups, counseling services, resources, and activities free of charge. In 2016, Mirchelle took on the role of CEO for the organization providing thoughtful, structured psychological and emotional support for patients. Five years later, she became a grateful client of the organization she's spearheaded for almost two decades after receiving a breast cancer diagnosis. Even while undergoing four rounds of one type of chemotherapy, 15 weekly treatments of another, and daily radiation for over six weeks, Mirchelle chose to focus on the positives and used what she was dealing with on a personal level to better connect with clients.

I'd like to thank Mirchelle for the incredible work she's done to support and inspire North Texas cancer patients—even through her own cancer journey.

HONORING PASO—WEST SUBURBAN ACTION PROJECT'S 15TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 15th Anniversary of P.A.S.O.—West Suburban Action Project (Proyecto de Acción de los Suburbios del Oeste), a community-based social justice organization in Chicago whose mission is to build stronger communities where residents can live dignified lives regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic or immigration status.

Since its founding in 2009, P.A.S.O. has become one of the leading immigrant rights or-

ganizations through grassroots organizing and coalition building working in collaboration with partners to create systemic, social change that leads to more equitable and just communities for people of all backgrounds.

Over the past fifteen years, P.A.S.O. has been a pillar of our community and a beacon of hope for so many. From supporting immigrants and refugees training them to defend their rights, to providing health education to seniors and parents, to championing workers rights, and providing free educational opportunities in Spanish, P.A.S.O. supports communities in the quest for change.

I am honored to commemorate P.A.S.O. on their 15th Anniversary. Congratulations (¡Felicidades!).