

and advocacy. During her long tenure, Joanna has seen Harvesters' recruitment of over 1 million volunteers across 2.5 million hours of service, fundraising of over \$300 million, and acquisition of a whopping 1 billion pounds of food. Let us take a moment to reflect on Joanna's long and fruitful career and its impact on food security here in Missouri's 5th District and beyond.

Although Joanna's decorated career did not begin with Harvesters, she has always sought to make a difference in the lives of others with her professional life. After graduating with honors from Boston College and receiving a master's from Central Michigan University, Joanna settled on the East Coast as an English teacher. It was in this position that she saw firsthand the effect that food insecurity could have on young people leading to misbehavior at school. This experience ignited her passion for fighting food insecurity so that no child would become a victim of it like her students did.

Joanna settled in the Midwest and joined Harvesters, an organization established in 1979 that focused on cutting back food waste in Kansas City, in 2001. As one of the pioneering food banks in the country, Harvesters quickly joined Feeding America, a national organization of food banks. The organization has become a staple charity in Kansas City and beyond, serving to ensure the human right of food security for over forty years. From the moment she joined Harvesters, Joanna committed herself to its mission, exceeding expectations in every way imaginable. Not only did she quickly climb Harvesters' ranks to become Chief Resource Officer, she also involved herself with state and national organizations dedicated to fighting food insecurity. She has served on three separate advisory committees for Feeding America, the Breakfast in the Classroom and Hunger Leader groups for the Food Research and Action Center, the local and Kansas State boards of the Federal Emergency Management Agency Emergency Food and Shelter Program, and as a member of Feeding Missouri. Such an illustrious resume demonstrates Joanna's awe-inspiring dedication as a crusader for equality and sets an example for anyone with similar conviction to follow.

Joanna's commitment to civic engagement does not end with ensuring food security. She also serves as a founding member of Hartsook Companies Kansas City Advisory Council, the Global Advisory Council, the American Association of Fundraising Professionals, Rotary 13, the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce Centurions, Chamber Champions, and the Greater Missouri Leadership Foundation. That is just her current engagement, in the past, she has served on the board of Empower Missouri and as a member of the Non-Profit Advisory Group, Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, and the Heart of America Hunger Coalition. With her expansive involvement across the non-profit community, Joanna has become an unstoppable force for good in the Greater Kansas City area.

What I admire most about Joanna is her resilience in the face of adversity. Over the course of her 23-year tenure at Harvesters, she has endured some of the most trying times our country has ever faced and has met these challenges with strength and determination. In 2008, the Great Recession wreaked havoc on the American economy, and the

number of people needing food assistance from Harvesters jumped by forty percent. Over the next six years, Harvesters met this challenge by nearly doubling its food distribution. Joanna herself was a crucial part of this success, being named the Association of Fundraising Professionals Mid America Chapter's Fundraiser of the Year in 2008. Finally, in 2020, as the COVID-19 Pandemic hit, Harvesters saw another forty percent surge in need. Despite a decreasing number of food drives and volunteers due to safety concerns and social distancing regulations, the organization distributed 65.9 million pounds of food and fundraised \$23 million, a record on both counts. As Chief Resource Officer during this period, Joanna was integral to this success. Once again, she proved her ability to face any challenge standing tall and handle it with the utmost skill and grace.

Harvesters' functions according to the belief that access to nutritious food is a human right. From the beginning of her career as a teacher and through her 23 years with Harvesters, Joanna Sebelien has understood this to be true. Her commitment to combatting food insecurity in Missouri's Fifth Congressional District is an inspiration to us all. Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Joanna's 23 years of service with Harvesters. On behalf of the 118th Congress, I wish her a retirement as fulfilling as her career.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF THERESA ERNESTINE RICHARDSON POPE

#### HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 25, 2024*

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Theresa Ernestine Richardson Pope. A trailblazing educator, passionate leader, and loving family member, Mrs. Pope was a guiding light in our community and changed the lives of many.

Born on January 8, 1944, in Somerset, Kentucky, Mrs. Pope was raised by her maternal grandparents, Reverend Robert Mae and Sarah Jane Owsley, and in the loving company of her cousins, whom she considered her siblings. In the early 1960s, Mrs. Pope attended Somerset High School, becoming one of the first Black students to integrate the school. Mrs. Pope attended Kentucky State University, where she met her husband, Jerry D. Pope, Sr. In December 1965, the two were married and moved to Buffalo to continue their education at Buffalo State College. Here, Mrs. Pope earned her Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degrees, and Certificate in School District Administration and Educational Supervision.

Mrs. Pope dedicated her career to public education, serving as an English Language Arts teacher at various Buffalo public schools. She became the first African American woman to serve as an Assistant Principal at Seneca Vocational High School and later went on to become the Assistant Principal at Hutchinson Central Technical High School. After 33 years of dedicated service in the Buffalo Public School System, Mrs. Pope entered a well-deserved retirement.

Beyond the classroom, Mrs. Pope was passionate about serving her community in numerous capacities. As a Golden Soror of

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and a member of the Buffalo Gamma Phi Omega Chapter, Mrs. Pope worked to strengthen the sorority's community relations both locally and nationally. In her retirement, Mrs. Pope continued to advocate for better educational policies through her leadership with the Buffalo Retired Teachers and the Buffalo Retired Administrators Association. Mrs. Pope's exceptional commitment to community service earned her numerous awards from the Second Temple Baptist Church and the NAACP.

Today, Mrs. Pope is remembered as a loving mother of two, grandmother of six, and great-grandmother of four. Please join me in honoring Theresa Ernestine Richardson Pope for her lifetime of service and her commitment to making education a reality for all.

#### RECOGNIZING 4TH ANNUAL GREATER PRINCE WILLIAM JUNETEENTH PARADE AND THE DIVINE NINE

#### HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 25, 2024*

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 4th Annual Greater Prince William Juneteenth Parade in commemoration of the 159th Juneteenth.

June 19, 2024, marks the 159th commemoration of Juneteenth, a celebration of the liberation of enslaved African Americans. On June 19, 1865, Union General Gordon Granger led troops to Galveston, Texas to issue General Order No. 3, which made clear that slavery had been abolished in 1863, two and a half years prior, with the Emancipation Proclamation.

This significant moment in American history is worthy of recognition, and the annual Greater Prince William Juneteenth Parade provides that opportunity to the community. This year's parade seeks to celebrate the National Pan-Hellenic Council, known as the Divine Nine, and recognize their continued dedication to supporting Black communities worldwide. For more than 100 years, this group of nine historically Black Greek-letter organizations has uplifted Black communities through civic action, community service, and kinship. It is my privilege to join the greater Prince William County community in recognizing the dedicated work of the Divine Nine.

The importance of this historic day deserves recognition and celebration. This annual parade, which does just that, would not have been possible without the dedicated work of the Greater Prince William Juneteenth Parade Committee—composed of Ms. Mellionese Bennett, Ms. Ebony Lofton, and Ms. Cydney A. Neville. I thank them for their commitment to bringing this celebration to life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 159th anniversary of Juneteenth and the 4th Annual Greater Prince William Juneteenth Parade. Thank you to the Divine Nine for their dedication and to the parade committee for highlighting the celebration of such a significant historical event.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION OF  
THOMAS AUSTIN, ARCHITECT OF  
THE CAPITOL

**HON. BRYAN STEIL**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 25, 2024*

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I rise, along with my fellow members of the Architect of the Capitol Congressional Commission—Speaker of the House MIKE JOHNSON, House Minority Leader HAKEEM JEFFERIES, Committee on House Administration Ranking Member JOE MORELLE, former Chairwoman Kay Granger and incumbent Chairman TOM COLE of the Committee on Appropriations, and Appropriations Committee Ranking Member ROSA DELAURO, as well as my Senate colleagues, the Senate Majority and Minority leaders, the Chairwoman and Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, and the Chairwoman and Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Appropriations—to congratulate Thomas Austin on his appointment to the role of Architect of the Capitol.

The Architect of the Capitol plays a vital role in welcoming millions of visitors to our Capitol and ensuring it is a functional workplace. Thomas Austin has managed construction projects and facilities of all sizes, maintained one of our nation's most hallowed landmarks, and served our country in the military. We are confident that with his extensive experience, Thomas Austin will be an adept and capable Architect of the Capitol.

The Commission also wants to thank Chief Engineer Chere Rexroat and Chief of Operations Joe DiPietro for their service as successive acting Architects of the Capitol over the past year. Their leadership over the past year provided stability for the AOC and reassured us all that the AOC could continue to fulfill its important mission to serve Congress and the public. They have the appreciation of a grateful congressional community.

RECOGNIZING DR. JEFFREY  
DUCHIN'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
PUBLIC HEALTH

**HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 25, 2024*

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Jeffrey Duchin who is retiring after a thirty-year career in public health, most recently as the Health Officer for Public Health—Seattle & King County.

Dr. Duchin began working at Public Health—Seattle & King County in 1994 on assignment from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to handle the Tuberculosis and HIV programs. Four years later, Dr. Duchin served as the Public Health—Seattle & King County Chief of Vaccination and Communicable Disease Epidemiology, a position he held until he was named Health Officer in 2015. He has lent his expertise to numerous national policy and advisory bodies where he helped shape approaches to immunizations and infectious diseases. Dr. Duchin is also a longtime Professor at the University of Washington's Schools of Medicine and Public

Health. In this capacity, he provides mentorship to students and publishes research on communicable disease. His contributions to infectious disease research will undoubtedly leave a mark on the field for years to come.

Dr. Duchin's outstanding work helped King County and Washington State navigate the COVID-19 pandemic and better prepare for public health emergencies. In 2020, King County experienced America's first known COVID-19 case and the first large outbreak. Dr. Duchin immediately stepped into action and his leadership was nationally recognized. During this time, Dr. Duchin prioritized community engagement and solutions that centered equity. My staff and I partnered closely with Public Health—Seattle & King County during the pandemic. Dr. Duchin's invaluable expertise, frequent updates and excellent communication were essential for the intergovernmental partnerships that supported our communities throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Duchin's prioritization of science and deep understanding of the intersectionality of health saved countless lives.

Dr. Duchin's tireless commitment to public health has benefitted the lives of so many in King County and beyond. His leadership will serve as a model for Washington State's leaders for years to come. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating his many accomplishments and contributions to public health. On behalf of Washington's 7th Congressional District, I thank Dr. Jeffrey Duchin for his service to the people of the Pacific Northwest.

END JEW HATRED NATIONAL  
CAMPAIGN

**HON. NICK LaLOTA**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 25, 2024*

Mr. LaLOTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the need to end antisemitism in this generation. I strongly condemn antisemitism in all its forms and I will continue to stand firmly and proudly to end discrimination against, and persecution of, the Jewish community.

Three years ago on Yom Hashoah, Israel's Holocaust Remembrance Day, members of the Jewish community in New York and New Jersey came together to form the End Jew Hatred National Campaign, aimed at creating a day of empowerment leading into Jewish American Heritage Month and recognizing the Jewish community's contributions to American history. I am proud of the work they have accomplished so far.

For millennia, the Jewish people have sustained their shared religious, cultural, and ethnic identity and traditions in the face of enslavement, persecution, genocide, segregation, and discrimination, and all manner of adversity. Despite their adversities, Jewish Americans have made indelible contributions to New York and the United States' culture, history, and social fabric, strengthening the country and helping shape all areas of American life.

While we have made significant strides to end the discrimination of Jews, the Jewish community has continued to be subjected to antisemitism and hate, including discrimination in the workplace, at school, and in public

spaces. The horrific tragedy of October 7th, and the war that has carried on since has led to a massive uptick of antisemitism. This antisemitism and hate has manifested itself as both discrimination and violence targeting Jews for their identity and seeking to deny their shared identity, including their connection to their ancestral homeland.

This can go on no more. We must stand as a unified front and combat antisemitism wherever it rears its ugly head. As long as I am serving in Congress, I will always support our Jewish community and work in a bipartisan manner to end antisemitism once and for all. On behalf of the First Congressional District of New York, I thank the End Jew Hatred National Campaign for their work and reaffirm my commitment to ending antisemitism and honoring our Jewish community.

HONORING DR. FEDERICO  
ZARAGOZA

**HON. SUSIE LEE**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 25, 2024*

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor retiring Dr. Federico Zaragoza, who has proudly served as President of the College of Southern Nevada for half a decade.

Dr. Zaragoza has been an education leader for more than 20 years, playing a critical role in driving student success. Before relocating to southern Nevada, Dr. Zaragoza served as Vice Chancellor for Economic and Workforce Development at a network of community colleges in San Antonio, Texas. For the past six years, Dr. Zaragoza has led the College of Southern Nevada, including three main campuses, seven learning centers, and locations that span 8,000 miles. Under his administration, graduation rates at the College of Southern Nevada nearly doubled between 2018 and 2021, and the College was designated as a national Leader College of Distinction in 2019.

In addition to his role at the College of Southern Nevada, Dr. Zaragoza has held several leadership roles and memberships on state and national committees and commissions. As a Member of the Board of Directors for the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC), he advocates for nearly 1,200 community colleges and more than 12 million students nationwide. He also serves as the U.S. representative on the Board of the Inter-American Organization for Higher Education (IOHE). He has previously served on the National Skills Coalition's Think Tank, and as State Director for the Wisconsin—Job Training Partnership Act Programs, Dean of Continuing Education for the Milwaukee Area Technical College, and Vice President for the St. Philip's College Southwest Campus.

Throughout his career in education, which included delivering lectures and keynote addresses in the U.S. and across South America, as well as co-authoring workforce education materials, Dr. Zaragoza has received several awards for his work. These include the Education Brillante Award from the National Society of Hispanic MBAs (NSHMB) and the Texas Association of Community Colleges Carl Nelson Leadership Award.

Dr. Zaragoza has had a significant impact on higher education institutions and students