

States Army Corps of Engineers, and as a civilian military liaison in both Vietnam and Germany.

John was also dedicated to helping veterans and immediately began his volunteerism upon returning from the war. He was a proud member of the Marine Corps League as well as the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) where he served on multiple board positions and roles.

Family meant everything to John, if you where his friend, you were his family too. His proudest titles came from his family, as a son, a husband, a father, a grandfather, and finally as a great-grandfather.

John is survived by his children June McJunkin, Jamie Millen, Joel Adema, Jill Dahlen, and Justin Adema, 11 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren. John's legacy lives on through his family. John was a beacon of the American Spirit and will be missed greatly by all those that knew him. Rest in Peace.

COMMEMORATING THE 275TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHESTERFIELD COUNTY

HON. JENNIFER L. McCLELLAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2024

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 275th anniversary of the founding of my hometown, Chesterfield County.

On May 8, 1607, Christopher Newport and a party of Englishmen exploring what became known as the James and Appomattox Rivers encountered a village inhabited by the Appamattuck Tribe. Shortly thereafter, the English explorers settled approximately 30 miles downstream on Jehat they named Jamestown Island. Three years later, Sir Thomas Dale led a group of colonists from Jamestown to found the Citie of Henricus on the James River as the second permanent English settlement in the New World.

Chesterfield County continued to set milestones in American history. In 1614, Bermuda Hundred in Chesterfield became the first incorporated town in America. By 1619, the area witnessed the establishment of the first iron furnace in the New World at Falling Creek. In 1622, the county was also home to the first American hospital, Mount Malady, near Dutch Gap.

In 1634, colonists brought the first Africans to Bermuda Hundred in Chesterfield County. In 1882, the Virginia General Assembly chartered the Virginia Normal and Collegiate Institute, the nation's first fully state-supported four-year institution of higher learning for African Americans. Today, the institution is now the esteemed HBCU, Virginia State University.

In 1709, Chesterfield made another significant contribution by producing the first commercially mined coal in America. The county's infrastructure also saw pioneering developments, such as Virginia's first paved road, the Midlothian Turnpike, in 1807, and the state's first railroad, the Midlothian to Manchester Railroad, in 1831.

Chesterfield County celebrated its 250th year in 1999 and has since continued to grow and flourish. In response to the evolving needs of its residents, the county established

several new departments after its 250th anniversary, including the Community Engagement and Resources Department, Adult Drug Court, Juvenile Drug Court, Constituent Services, Community Enhancement, and Sports Tourism.

In 2013, the residents of Chesterfield County demonstrated their commitment to the community through the approval of a bond referendum, which resulted in significant school facility improvements and the replacement of the county's emergency communications system. The 2022 bond referendum followed, financing projects for schools, public safety, libraries, and parks and recreation.

Since its 250th anniversary, Chesterfield County has completed numerous transportation and pedestrian projects, greatly enhancing the lives of its residents and those in neighboring localities.

These projects include the widening of Route 10, the construction of the Interstate 295/Meadowville Interchange, and the expansion of Route 288 into a four-lane highway from Powhite Parkway to the Powhatan County Line. Other improvements include the widening of Chippenham Parkway from Hull Street to Route 1, securing \$31 million for Chesterfield's 8.5 miles of the Fall Line Trail, and obtaining \$80 million for regional projects as part of the Central Virginia Transportation Authority.

I'm honored to represent Chesterfield County in Congress and commend it on 275 years of growth and development. I am proud of its rich history and look forward to its bright future as it approaches its tricentennial.

BLYTHEWOOD ALL-STARS NAMED 2024 SOUTH CAROLINA AA STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2024

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the South Carolina Blythewood Coach Pitch All-Stars baseball team for their win of the 2024 South Carolina AA State Championship in Walterboro, South Carolina. The outstanding team of twelve, 7- to 8-year-old boys, are now heading to Orangeburg to represent South Carolina in the Diamond Youth Baseball World Series where they will compete against all-star teams from eleven states across the Southeast. On behalf of all South Carolinians, I would like to congratulate the Blythewood All-Stars on this impressive achievement and wish them the best of luck as they represent Team SC in the World Series.

The Blythewood All-Stars team includes players, Wylie Branham, Robert "Chandler" Douglass, Colton Hack, Adam "Graceson" Holland, Jameson Hubbard, Brody Hughes, Maddox Oliver, Reed Peake, Chandler Perry, Declan Schultz, Trenton Wilburn and coaches, Dustin Brnham, Ryan Douglass, Matt Hubbard, and Matt Hughes.

Their journey began with these twelve young gentlemen being selected out of ninety-five ball players further divided amongst twelve teams in the Blythewood Youth Baseball Softball League. The team has been practicing day in and day out from the time the

team was formed up until they went to the South Carolina Diamond Youth Baseball District 4 Tournament in early June. There they went on to score a total of 38 runs, allowing only 7 runs against them, defeating the Midland Coach Pitch All-Stars, Lexington National All-Stars, and Dentsville 8U All-Stars, becoming the District 4 champions.

After a well-deserved break, they resumed practice and made the trek to Walterboro, where they played teams from Clinton and Hartsville, outscoring their opponents 27-3 the first day of tournament play. These wins advanced Blythewood through a bye the following day, where they picked right back up the next day playing Hilton Head and Clinton again, outscoring opponents 15-9. With these wins, Blythewood automatically advanced into the championship bracket.

However, they fell short in a hard-fought battle with Hilton Head in a historical game that lasted 15 innings, with a score of 3-4. Although, since it was a double-elimination tournament, they were not out, they would face Hilton Head again for a winner-takes-all-game. In true Blythewood fashion, the team fought back hard, took an early lead in the game, and kept the lead to beat Hilton Head 4-2, to become the 2024 South Carolina AA State Champions.

This victory of the Blythewood All-Stars Team is well-deserved, and I congratulate the team, coaches, families, and community for all their hard work and support, making the kids' dreams come true.

HONORING FAJRI ANSARI

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2024

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Fajri Ansari, who has been awarded the Hal Payne Lifetime Achievement Award. A passionate educator and devoted man of faith, Mr. Ansari has positively changed the lives of many in the City of Buffalo.

Mr. Ansari began his career at Buffalo State University, where he spent 42 years working in education and athletics. In 1981, Mr. Ansari started working in the Buffalo State Admissions office. By 2005, he was appointed as the Assistant Director of Admissions and Director of Educational Opportunity Program (EOP). Mr. Ansari also led the Buffalo State basketball program. During his tenure, Mr. Ansari mentored countless students through their educational journeys and amassed 200 wins for the basketball program, the second-most in school history.

Outside of his work at Buffalo State University, Mr. Ansari shares his passion for basketball with the greater Western New York community. For 14 years, Mr. Ansari served as the head basketball coach at Turner Carroll High School. Here, Mr. Ansari led his team to two State Federation Championships, five State Catholic Association titles, and three Monsignor Martin Manhattan Cup Championships. Mr. Ansari has shared his passion for the sport internationally, serving as the basketball coach for Rwanda's National and University Teams, the United States College Exhibition Team, and the Western New York High School Team overseas.

Further, Mr. Ansari is committed to serving others through his faith. As the beloved religious leader of Masjid Nu'Man, Mr. Ansari has become a symbol of hope for the Muslim community and the interfaith community of Western New York. Under Mr. Ansari's leadership, the mosque has held numerous community events in the City of Buffalo, including the "Putting the Neighbor Back in the Hood" event showcasing the Fillmore neighborhood of Buffalo, food and grocery distribution events, annual African American history programs, and regular neighborhood clean-ups. Mr. Ansari's interfaith work has taken him across the world in service of others, working at the Vatican in Rome and in Istanbul, Turkey.

After 9/11, Mr. Ansari brought together over 50,000 people from all walks of life to pray for peace on the steps of Buffalo's City Hall. On September 23, 2001 during the "A Player for America" Interfaith Prayer Ceremony in Yankee Stadium for the families of the victims of 9/11, Mr. Ansari delivered a translation of the Adhan, the Muslim call to prayer.

Today, Mr. Ansari's dedication to serving others and to his faith is being honored with the Hal Payne Lifetime Achievement Award on behalf of Buffalo State University. Please Join me in congratulating Mr. Fajri Ansari on this incredible achievement and thanking him for all he does to make Western New York a better place.

RECOGNIZING LAURA BRIGGS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2024

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Laura Briggs, who has served as one of my most trusted staff members for more than a decade in her role as a District Field Representative and District Scheduler. Laura is leaving my office after 14 years of distinguished service. For 12 of those years as District Scheduler, Laura has been the glue that has kept my office running efficiently. It is often said that the scheduler has the hardest job in a congressional office. One must possess exceptional organizational skills, a strong work ethic, initiative, professionalism and above all else thick skin. These are all qualities that Laura not only displays but sets the standard.

Constituents of the Sixth Congressional District have also had a fierce advocate in Laura, who has helped countless constituents resolve issues with the federal government. Her advocacy and commitment were never more on display during Superstorm Sandy which devastated my district in 2012 and the COVID pandemic that gripped the world. In the weeks, months, and years following Sandy, Laura was a key field representative helping victims recover and rebuild when everything was lost. During the height of the pandemic, Laura became a leader in my office, helping constituents gain much needed access to unemployment benefits and helping businesses gain access to grants and loans to keep their doors open. Without exaggeration, hundreds of families were able to put food on the table during a time of great uncertainty because of Laura's tireless efforts.

Before joining my office in 2010, Laura started her career in public service as an aide to

three different New Jersey Governors, Richard Codey, Jon Corzine, and Chris Christie. Serving in roles as a scheduler in the Operations office of the Governor and Aide to the Governor in the Appointments Office. Laura received her B.A. in Political Science Magna Cum Laude in 2005 from Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts.

Over the last 14 years, Laura has spent a lot of long days, nights and weekends serving my office and ultimately the people of the Sixth Congressional District. I also want to acknowledge the love and support she has received from her husband Jon and her two children Sarah and Andrew. In addition to her public service, Laura is also dedicated to her children and her community, serving as a member of the Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore and a volunteer coach with the Point Pleasant Soccer Association.

Mr. Speaker, it should go without saying that the American people, New Jerseyans, and the people of the Sixth Congressional District have been well served by Laura Briggs for the last 14 years. Even though she is moving on from her service to the United States Congress, I wish her nothing but the best in her future endeavors and know that whatever path she chooses will be a successful one.

HONORING MR. TRAVIS BELL ON BEING INDUCTED INTO THE NATIONAL BARBER MUSEUM AND HALL OF FAME

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2024

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Travis Bell on being inducted into the National Barber Museum and Hall of Fame.

Our military is the best in the world, and Fort Liberty, formerly Fort Bragg, is the largest military base in the world. Cutting hair for some of the highest-ranking military officers in the world is something Mr. Bell has excelled at for 55 years.

Bell grew up in Lumberton, North Carolina working on a farm and learned haircutting from his brother, eventually becoming the most sought-after barber on base. He has truly lived an American dream with leading war heroes, Special Forces legends, Commanders of the 18th Airborne Corps, Generals from the famous 82nd Airborne, and even Secretaries of Defense, all sitting in his chair, requesting his services. Mr. Bell credits his success to his loving and supportive family, and his faith in God.

Through years of hard work, Mr. Bell has shown his commitment to our service members stationed at Fort Liberty, and we thank him for his dedication and service to the folks who keep us safe. This induction is a momentous achievement and Mr. Bell should be immensely proud of all he has accomplished throughout his storied career. Anybody who cuts the hair of Four-Star Generals on a day-to-day basis has definitely earned their spot in the National Barber Museum and Hall of Fame and I'm proud to recognize and celebrate his incredible success today.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Mr. Travis Bell on being inducted

into the National Barber Museum and Hall of Fame.

RECOGNIZING THE LATE MR. CASEY PRICE

HON. MIKE EZELL

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2024

Mr. EZELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the late Mr. Casey Price, of Ellisville, Mississippi, and to acknowledge the local events that are being held this week in his honor.

After graduating from Enterprise High School in Mississippi, Mr. Price was among the first African American students to receive an athletic scholarship at the University of Southern Mississippi. He embraced this opportunity and went on to make his name in Mississippi's Fourth District on the basketball court, averaging eleven points and nine rebounds per game. After a successful collegiate career, Mr. Price applied the skills from his achievements at the university to benefit his community.

Upon graduating in 1974, Casey Price began coaching at South Jones High School in Mississippi. His coaching methods made a lasting impact on his players, leading the team to a championship and providing invaluable lessons on winning and leadership. However, Mr. Price's influence extended well beyond basketball.

Seen as a father figure by many, there are numerous stories of how his unwavering encouragement in all aspects of life left an indelible mark on everyone in the community who had the privilege of learning from him. Even in retirement, he continued to support his former students. Mr. Price set a strong example both on and off the court, and I am confident those who knew him will continue to be motivated by his legacy.

I am deeply grateful for Mr. Price's work and his commitment to shaping many lives in South Mississippi. Let us all follow his example to encourage the next generation of local leaders.

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S BEACH VOLLEYBALL TEAM ON THEIR 2024 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP WIN

HON. SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2024

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the University of Southern California (USC) Women's Beach Volleyball National Championship win. Their victory on May 5th marked the team's fourth straight championship and seventh overall national title, as well as the 136th national championship for the University of Southern California. In addition, it is the 28th National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) win for the Woman of Troy.

On behalf of the 37th Congressional District, I want to extend an enthusiastic congratulations to Ashley Pater, Grace Hong, Delaney