

undefeated in the winner's bracket and they all should be proud of their efforts.

All these boys, Kaleb Christ, Jett Matthews, Doc Mogford, Gray Collins, Dylan Burke, Aiden Muñoz, Gage Steubing, Kole Newson, Julian Hurst, Ben Burkhart, Cooper Hastings, and Caden Guffey have performed an amazing feat. The coaches, parents, and everyone in Boerne who mentored these boys, built them up, and supported them have done a great job and should be proud of what these boys did.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Boerne All-Stars; you have made all of Texas proud.

HAPPY 98TH BIRTHDAY TO JOHN  
F. WELSH

**HON. RICK W. ALLEN**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 30, 2024*

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor John F. Welsh—a World War II combat veteran and American patriot who celebrates his 98th birthday on September 4th, 2024. John Welsh, better known as “Jack,” was born in Macon, Georgia and grew up along the Gulf Coast from New Orleans to Pensacola, Florida.

Jack never had a doubt that he was called to serve. Upon graduating high school on June 6, 1944—the same day allied forces landed on the beaches of Normandy—Jack immediately spoke to his parents about enlisting in the United States Army.

Having watched World War II progress through his high school years and on the front pages of the newspapers he himself delivered, Jack was elated that his parents agreed, and he entered basic training in the fall of 1944.

By October, Jack had crossed the country and the Pacific Ocean to land in the Philippines, and upon completion of his mission there, served in the occupation of Japan.

After his years of service, Jack was awarded the Asiatic Pacific Theater Campaign Ribbon with two Bronze Stars, the Good Conduct Medal, the Philippine Liberation Campaign Ribbon with one Bronze Star, the Army of Occupation Ribbon, the Victory Ribbon, and three Overseas Service Bars.

After discharge, Jack enrolled in Duke University's Forestry school where he earned both a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Forestry. He also met the love of his life, Mary Ann Casimes, with whom he later married and raised a family.

We thank Jack for his years of service and wish him a happy 98th birthday. God bless.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH WEDDING  
ANNIVERSARY OF LARRY AND  
BETTY DEASON

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 30, 2024*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 50th wedding anniversary of Larry and Betty Deason.

Larry Kenneth Deason was born in Anniston, Alabama, on February 9, 1952, to George Henry Deason and Mary Jewell Deason of Anniston. Betty Lowe Bagley was born on March 24, 1952, to Oscar Miller Bagley and Madell Lowe Bagley.

Larry and Betty both attended Anniston High School and graduated in 1970, the last class to graduate from the old high school building. They started dating their senior year at AHS.

Their first date was a Coke party hosted by the George Neely Chapter of Hi-Y. They dated off and on through the rest of high school and college.

Larry and Betty married on July 20, 1974, at Parker Memorial Baptist Church in Anniston. They are blessed with their daughter Maryann D. Gendron, son-in-law Steven Gendron, grandson Henry Steven Gendron and granddaughter Sarah Kathryn Gendron.

The Deasons spend most of their time at the lake in Wedowee, Alabama, or attending banking conventions. They celebrated their 50th anniversary on a Mediterranean cruise with dear friends.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing this milestone for my dear friends, Larry and Betty Deason and wishing them a happy 50th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL  
DAY AGAINST NUCLEAR TESTS

**HON. DINA TITUS**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 30, 2024*

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mark the 15th annual International Day Against Nuclear Tests on August 29, and to commend the Republic of Kazakhstan for its role in working collaboratively with the United States to pursue nuclear disarmament and our shared non-proliferation goals. In doing so, our two countries have preserved peace, stability, and a world free from the ever-present threat of nuclear conflict.

When the Soviet Union dissolved in 1991, it left behind 35,000 nuclear weapons at sites across the Eurasian landmass. With thousands of nuclear-armed ICBMs in places like Belarus and Ukraine, the newly-formed Republic of Kazakhstan inherited the world's fourth-largest nuclear arsenal, which was also home of the Semipalatinsk nuclear test site. From Semipalatinsk's establishment in 1946 to its decommission in 1995, Soviet authorities carried out 468 nuclear tests at the test site. The total impact of these tests between 1949 and 1963 was 2,500 times more powerful than the atomic bomb the U.S. dropped on Hiroshima. The toxic radioactive fallout these tests yielded caused irreparable damage to more than 1.3 million people in Kazakhstan and severe ecological harm to the area surrounding the test site.

In 1989, before the dissolution of the Soviet Union, anti-nuclear war activists in Kazakhstan established the Nevada-Semipalatinsk Movement. This grassroots initiative supported by victims of Nevada's own nuclear legacy sought the closure of Semipalatinsk and the cessation of nuclear testing. Of the 18 planned detonations in 1989, 11 were stopped thanks to the group's committed advocacy and resilience. The Nevada-Semipalatinsk Movement

underscores the bond and shared history between Nevadans and Kazakhs.

Despite any strategic advantage that retention of the Soviet Union's arsenal may have provided to Kazakhstan, its leadership understood the potential political, humanitarian, and environmental ramifications of its development. On August 29, 1991, Kazakhstan made the historic and noble decision to close the Semipalatinsk test site. In its place, the National Nuclear Center of Kazakhstan was established to assist in eliminating the infrastructure for the storage and use of nuclear weapons. It would also provide scientific and technical support for the peaceful use of atomic energy.

In 1992, Kazakhstan ratified the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START 1) and a few years later, all of Kazakhstan's 104 ICBMs were safely removed and destroyed. The Kazakh government doubled-down on its commitment to global peace, security, and non-proliferation by becoming a party to the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in 1993, a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency in 1994, and a cosigner of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty in 1996.

Meanwhile, in partnership with the United States, Kazakhstan removed 1,322 pounds of highly enriched uranium from the Ulba Metallurgical Plant under the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program. As part of this program, our two countries took monumental steps to remove residual materials and technologies related to weapons of mass destruction in Kazakhstan, signaling a major shift in the global security and political paradigm and building momentum that catalyzed the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

In 2010, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution calling for an International Day Against Nuclear Tests. Thus, August 29th was selected to commend and recognize Kazakhstan's honorable decision to close the Semipalatinsk test site and renounce nuclear weapons.

With Cold War-style nuclear saber-rattling becoming the new norm, it is important, on this International Day Against Nuclear Tests, to highlight the successful steps taken by the United States and Kazakhstan to mitigate the dangers of nuclear weapons, institute global nonproliferation regimes, and adhere to international norms around nuclear testing.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BURBANK TOURNAMENT OF ROSES ASSOCIATION AND THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF BURBANK, CALIFORNIA'S FIRST FLOAT ENTERED INTO THE ROSE PARADE

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 30, 2024*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 75th anniversary of the Burbank Tournament of Roses Association and 110th anniversary of the City of Burbank's first float in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade.

The City of Burbank has been represented in the Rose Parade since 1914, when the City

of Burbank, the Burbank Chamber of Commerce, and other civic organizations entered Burbank's first float. That float, entitled "God-dess of Plenty," featured an intricate dragon's head and a large cornucopia filled with assorted vegetables, and was awarded a silver cup trophy. Since that time, Burbank has participated in the parade intermittently, including a few years where decorated automobiles were entered instead of floats. From 1935 to 1940, the Burbank city schools took responsibility for the floats, and after a few years' hiatus during World War II, the city sponsored floats, including an Isabella Coleman-designed float, made by professional float building companies, in 1947 and 1948.

When the City Council decided that funds would be better used for infrastructure and announced that Burbank would not participate in the 1949 Rose Parade, Burbank resident Esther Klein led the effort to privately finance a float. After gaining widespread community support for a hometown-built float, Mrs Klein brought a self-designed model of the proposed entry and exploratory plans for a permanent Burbank Tournament of Roses committee to the Burbank City Council, and subsequently received the council's approval. Thanks to the very first and newly elected Burbank Tournament of Roses Association President Esther Klein's stellar leadership, and against many odds, the association members and the Burbank community raised funds and mobilized volunteers to design, build, and decorate the 1949 float entitled "First Love," which won First Prize for its division.

Over 75 years, Burbank's float has won thirty-three major awards including three Sweepstakes Awards for Best Float Entry. Burbank's annual float entry in this emblematic New Year's Day tradition is a product of the unwavering dedication, hard work and local civic pride demonstrated by the Burbank Tournament of Roses Association and countless other civic organizations and community volunteers.

I ask all Members to join me today in recognizing the 75th anniversary of the Burbank Tournament of Roses Association and the 110th anniversary of Burbank's first float in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade.

RECOGNIZING JAMES &  
PAMELA REID

**HON. LISA C. McCLAIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 30, 2024*

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr Speaker, I rise today to congratulate James and Pamela Reid, two lifelong farmers who were recently inducted into the Michigan Farmers Hall of Fame.

James and Pamela began their journey in agriculture after acquiring a modest farm in 1978, which since then has transformed into the highly productive Reid Dairy Farm. Under their management, the farm expanded from 120 to 900 acres, supporting 300 cows. Their focus on productivity and employing new technology has significantly enhanced milk production, leading to an impressive 95 pounds per cow all while maintaining superior milk quality standards.

Their leadership extends beyond the fields and into civic engagement, where James' roles as Grant Township Supervisor and Chair of the St. Clair County Farmland Preservation Board reflect his deep commitment to our community. These positions allowed him to influence local agricultural policies positively and advocate for the preservation and sustainability of farming in the region.

Moreover, the Reid's proactive approach included substantial upgrades to their farming infrastructure, adding a modern barn and updating milking systems. These improvements boosted efficiency and served as a showcase for responsible agriculture.

Throughout his career, James has also contributed his expertise to several boards, including the MMPA Dairy Co-Op and the United Dairy Industry of Michigan. His leadership as President of the UDIM and his active participation on the Michigan Dairy Market Committee have been crucial in promoting the interests of local dairy farmers and influencing industry standards at both the state and national levels.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating James and Pamela Reid on their induction into the Michigan Farmers Hall of Fame. Their commitment to excellence, ability to adapt to change, and commitment to their community should serve as an inspiration to us all.

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF  
R.A.I.N.

**HON. RITCHIE TORRES**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 30, 2024*

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate R.A.I.N. (Regional Aid for Interim Needs) on providing incredible service to the Bronx, and New York City, for 60 years. R.A.I.N. started from humble beginnings as a home attendant service for elderly individuals who were being discharged from hospitals, who also lacked proper home care. Since then, it has expanded into a multi-service agency providing many crucial services to those in need throughout the Bronx and Manhattan including senior centers, home delivered meals, case worker visits among other irreplaceable activities. They have also partnered with the Bob and Dolores Hope foundation to foster Cucina Dolores, a community based mobile meals program for homeless and hungry persons in the South Bronx.

As we celebrate this momentous occasion, we also remember and pay homage to the life of Beatrice Castiglia-Catullo, affectionately known as Bea. Beatrice, who passed away in 2018, was the esteemed founder R.A.I.N. A nurse by training, she worked tirelessly for her patients and later on for those who benefited from R.A.I.N.'s services. R.A.I.N. would not have reached this milestone without the decade's long dedication and commitment from Beatrice and the rest of their outstanding team.

In recent years R.A.I.N. has provided additional valuable programs and resources in the Bronx community. They have begun providing

services to Alzheimer caregivers acknowledging the significant toll that the horrific disease has not only on those suffering from it but also those caring for them as well. R.A.I.N. sponsors two housing facilities in the district where our seniors live comfortably and affordably. Finally, R.A.I.N. runs 17 centers across the borough where their critical work takes place.

Thank you to President and CEO Dr. Anderson Torres for continuing Beatrice's essential work in our community. Congratulations to every member of R.A.I.N. and thank you to them for their service. I look forward to another 60 years of R.A.I.N.'s community service.

RECOGNIZING THE 2024 YOUNGSTOWN WARREN REGIONAL CHAMBER SALUTE TO BUSINESS AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. MICHAEL A. RULLI**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 30, 2024*

Mr. RULLI. Mr. Speaker, having worked in a family-run small business my whole life, I understand both the challenges and importance of running a successful small business venture. As you know, U.S. small businesses make up about 99.9 percent of all businesses and create more than 60 percent of all new jobs. Accordingly, I would like to take a moment to recognize the 2024 award recipients for the Youngstown Warren Regional Chamber's annual Salute to Business. I am proud to be able to honor these recipients for their work as upstanding business leaders in the community.

Mr. Greg Toporcer, owner of Top Property Holdings, will be presented with the Business Professional of the Year.

Ms. Kristen Olmi, chief executive officer of KO Consulting, Inc., will be presented with the Business Advocate of the Year.

Ms. Dionne Dowdy, executive director of United Returning Citizens, will be presented with the Non-Profit Professional of the Year award.

Mr. Ronnell Elkins, president of YOGO Bikeshare, will be presented with the Entrepreneur of the Year award.

Ms. Melissa Poland, owner of Sweet Melissa's Good Eats, will be presented with the Small Business Professional of the Year award.

Mr. Antonio Di Tommaso, Jr., of Carpenters Local 171, will be presented with the Salute to Labor Achievement Award.

Finally, Ms. Sarah O'Brien, owner of a chain of Little Tart Bakeshop locations in Atlanta, will be presented with the Valley Champion Award.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing these honorable leaders, pillars of the Youngstown Warren community, as we congratulate them on their accomplishments and their contributions to the community. These admirable citizens illustrate the thriving Ohio business community I am proud to represent, and may their work continue to be a blessing to our industrious Nation.