

Sylvia Wilson Thomas: Vice President for Research & Innovation and President & CEO of the Research Foundation at the University of South Florida, who is recognized for transformational innovations in miniaturized electronic circuitry and advanced materials to support biosensors for more effective real-time health monitoring, and development of nano electronic device integration using advanced membrane/material systems to meet global technological challenges.

Anthony "Tony" Van Heugten: Chief Technology Officer at e-Vision Smart Optics, Inc., who is recognized for cutting-edge ophthalmic technologies, developing liquid crystal tunable lenses for intra-ocular lenses, contact lenses, eyewear, and virtual and augmented reality devices; and for innovations in ophthalmic medical devices to restore clear vision for people with presbyopia, glaucoma, and cataracts.

Rachana Vidhi: Director of Technical Sales at NextEra Analytics, who is recognized for pioneering contributions in renewable energy integration, in particular battery technologies that have revolutionized battery storage systems, accelerated the growth of renewable energy integration, and advanced sustainability; and developing innovative approaches to predicting long-term performance of Lithium-ion batteries for utility-scale applications.

Daniel H. Yeh: Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of South Florida, who is recognized for pioneering contributions to environmental engineering and sustainability, particularly wastewater purification and recycling, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, renewable bioenergy, and global WaSH (water, sanitation and hygiene) to mitigate water scarcity and inadequate sanitation for countless communities worldwide.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LARRY FISHER

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Larry Fisher.

Larry was born in Los Angeles, California and attended the University of Southern California where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and served as editor of the Daily Trojan. Shortly after earning his degree in Journalism, Larry moved to Sacramento to serve on the staff of Jesse M. Unruh, former Speaker of the California State Assembly.

He subsequently returned to Los Angeles and served as executive director of the California Democratic Party before joining Braun and Company as an account executive in 1966. He served as CEO of Braun and Company's international public relations firm, Braun Ketchum, where he spent many years directing corporate media campaigns and providing counsel to executives.

Upon retiring from Braun Ketchum, Larry and his wife, Betty, moved to the Bay Area. After a stint working as a director and case manager for Options Recovery in Berkeley, Larry embarked on a new path, entering a three-year program to become a spiritual director. He worked with clients in both individual and group settings, helping them find new meaning and direction.

Sadly, Larry passed away in May 2024. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Betty, their children, L. Timothy (Monaliza Fisher), and Lara (Justin Darisse), and his grandchildren, Emma, Aiden, and Cameron.

Larry will be remembered for his outstanding character and the incredible impact he had on his community. Please join me in recognizing Larry for his many contributions to our community and devoted service to the State of California.

RECOGNIZING DEPUTY QUINTEN L. MIGHT

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the lifesaving efforts of Deputy Quinten L. Might of the Gibson County Sheriff's Office and thank him for his continuing service to his community and state.

Deputy Might grew up in the community that he serves today, attending and graduating from Wood Memorial High School in Gibson County. After graduation, he enlisted in the United States Army where he served as a medic. He continued his record of service when he joined the Gibson County Sheriff's Office in 2019 as a correctional officer, and was sworn in as a deputy in 2021. At only 25 years old, Quinten has proven that he is willing and ready to protect and save the lives of those in his community, including in four separate incidents since July of 2023.

One of these lifesaving occasions was on May 24, 2024, when Deputy Might and another deputy responded to a personal injury accident involving a two-vehicle collision. Upon arrival, Deputy Might came to the aid of an individual who was unconscious and not breathing. Despite multiple small explosions from the fire of the crash, the two deputies moved the victim to safety, and hooked up an AED unit and began two-person CPR until the individual thankfully regained consciousness, ultimately surviving the incident.

More recently, on August 9, 2024, Deputy Might responded to a residence call about a two-year old girl who fell into a swimming pool and was unresponsive. As soon as he arrived, Deputy Might called an ambulance and quickly moved the child from the backyard to the front, during which time he freed up her airway by striking her back, likely saving her life.

I am grateful that we have law enforcement officers like Deputy Quinten Might serving our communities today, and thank him for his service and dedication to Gibson County, and the State of Indiana.

CONGRATULATING TARYN KLOTH

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Taryn Kloth on her remarkable 2024 Olympic performance, finishing ninth overall in the Women's Beach Volleyball Olympic competition. Taryn, a Sioux

Falls native, proudly represented Team USA with her teammate Kristen Nuss. It was exciting to see a South Dakotan represent Team USA in the Paris Olympics. Our state proudly cheered on Taryn throughout the matches.

Taryn attended O'Gorman Catholic High School in Sioux Falls, South Dakota where she began her impressive volleyball career. After helping start the first indoor volleyball team in South Dakota, Taryn earned the Gatorade South Dakota Player of the Year award in 2014, a national championship for her club team, a back-to-back state championship, and landed a top-20 high school ranking in the country.

After high school, she went to Creighton University as their highest ranked recruit in school history. Taryn led the team to four consecutive Big East titles and four NCAA tournament appearances, including a school-best Elite 8 appearance in 2016.

Taryn graduated early from Creighton and then attended Louisiana State University where she helped them to a No. 1 ranking in the 2020 season. Taryn and Kristen completed the 2021 season going a historic 36-0, earning multiple accolades, including the prestigious American Volleyball Coaches Association Pair of the Year award. The two created a partnership "TKN" and became the No. 1 ranked Association of Volleyball Professionals Beach Volleyball Team and No. 2 ranked team worldwide.

I am proud to recognize and congratulate Taryn and Kristen for their hard work, dedication to the sport, and performance throughout their careers. I wish them continued success in their future endeavors. I thank Taryn for representing South Dakota well.

HONORING MS. MARGIE LEE PAGE JONES IN RECOGNITION OF HER CENTENARIAN BIRTHDAY

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the accomplishments of Ms. Margie Lee Page Jones, as she has reached her 100th birthday.

Ms. Jones was born to Myrtle and Lovy Page on September 16, 1924 in Lee County, Texas. She soon became a big sister to her brother Alton Page. Their childhood was shaped by simple pleasures, including riding donkeys and spending time with their horse named 'Oh Baby.' Ms. Jones also developed a love for music throughout her childhood with the song 'Rattlesnake Daddy' playing on their wind-up Victrola phonograph.

She attended the Doaks Springs School, where she was mentored by Principal C.L. Salsbury and teacher Ms. Corrett Moore. Soon after, she furthered her studies at C.J. Walker Beauty College. It was in Dallas, Texas that she met and married the love of her life, Mr. Joseph Jones. Together, they had four children—Myrtle Denise, Larry Joe, Elissa (Lisa) Lynn, and Michael Lee.

Their marriage continued until Mr. Jones passed away in 2001. Margie's family grew to include six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren, reflecting her role as a devoted mother and grandmother. Throughout her life,

Ms. Jones has been a devout Christian and has played an active role in her church. Her involvement with the Jordan Missionary Baptist Church began in the late 1960s, where she has been an active member for over 56 years. In 2015, she was honored as one of the Church Mothers, recognizing her long-standing commitment to her community.

As we mark her 100th birthday, we celebrate Margie's contributions to her family and community. Happy 100th birthday to Ms. Jones.

HONORING CONSTITUTION WEEK

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Constitution Week. I also rise to recognize the work and dedication that the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Children of the American Revolution pour into preserving and promoting the history of our Nation.

It is a privilege to commemorate the 236th anniversary of the drafting and adoption of the Constitution of the United States of America. Constitution Week serves as a reminder of the enduring importance of our Constitution and the freedoms it guarantees. The Daughters of the American Revolution and the Children of the American Revolution play an invaluable role in educating future generations about the principles enshrined by our founding fathers.

Through educational initiatives, historical preservation efforts, and community outreach, the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Children of the American Revolution actively engage in preserving our nation's story. Their programs—from providing scholarships to holding essay contests to facilitating history projects—encourage young Americans to take pride in their country and serve as a reminder to Americans of their civic duty to protect and defend the Constitution.

I thank the Daughters of the American Revolution Fredericksburg Chapter and the Surgeon Lawrence Brooks Society of the Children of the American Revolution for their dedication and service to our communities on behalf of this noble cause.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Constitution Week and recognizing the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Children of the American Revolution for their remarkable achievements and their continued commitment to educating the American people about the United States Constitution and the history of our Nation.

REMARKS ON THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

HON. JENNIFER A. KIGGANS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD remarks submitted at the request of a Virginia Beach constituent, Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman of Temple Lev Tikvah, and are a reflection of his views:

ON THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

Palestinian award-winning author and lawyer, Raja Shehadeh is co-founder in 1979 of Al-Haq, the Palestinian human rights organization. The Observer loaded him, "Palestine's greatest prose writer" and the New York Times Book Review heaps praises as well, "in his moral clarity and bearing of the heart is self-questioning and assistance on focusing on the experience of the individual within the storms of nationalist myth and hubris, Shehadeh recalls writers such as Ghassan Kanafani and Primo Levi."

In his latest book with a challenging title, *What Does Israel Fear From Palestine?* New York: Other Press, 2024, Shehadeh, clearly a Palestinian patriot who was born in 1951 in the West Bank town of Ramallah, offers us a concise packed yet imbalanced perspective on the long and agonizing Palestinian-Israeli conflict that the October 7, 2023, Hamas's vile attack with terrifying Holocaust dimensions, has brought into sharp view with months of fighting and much suffering to both sides. The detail-oriented writer and activist is anchored in the Palestinian saga of loss and grievances going back to the pivotal 1948 victorious Israeli War of Independence which the Palestinians painfully regard as their Nakba (Catastrophe).

Touching are the author's reminiscences of growing up in Ramallah with his grandma who was a refugee from Jaffa, ever missing her old home and inculcating in her young grandson an attachment to the family's past. "For a long time, I was hostage to the memories, perceptions and attitudes of others that I could not abandon. My sense of place was not my own." However, following the 1967 War when he was able to visit Jaffa, his family's roots gained a realistic sense of belonging. The close physical proximity was a primary factor.

Shehadeh blames the British for the turn of events culminating in the 1948 Arab defeat and the Palestinian debacle, pointing at the 1917 Balfour Declaration as the root cause, stating that the 1922 to 1948 British Mandate was dedicated to fulfilling the earlier declared British commitment toward the Jewish people. I believe that historians would beg to differ, regarding a gradual British shift in the Arabs' favor and manifested in severe limits on Jewish refugees before and after WWII and the Holocaust. Intense Jewish military pressure was created as the British Empire was disintegrating. The author claims that "what happened in Palestine was the utter dissolution of a nation," notwithstanding the acknowledged fact that no such "nation" historically existed yet the Israeli Jewish narrative supported by the Bible claims past millennial Jewish life and creativity which is cavalierly dismissed by the author, "Israel treated the Bible as a historical document and used it to back up the claim that the land had belonged to the Jews from time immemorial, having been promised to them by the Almighty."

He bemoans the fate of the Palestinian Arabs, about 160,000, who remained in Israel and were "forced" to celebrate Israel Independence Day. Admittedly, they were caught in a bind but there is no evidence that they were coerced to celebrate Israel's national festivals. After all they have enjoyed the benefits of becoming Israeli citizens and significant progress of integration was accomplished though challenges remain in a complex scenario with serious security issues. There is evidence of growing Palestinization of Arab Israelis while polls reflect no desire on their part to trade their Israeli citizenship for an Arab one. There is no mention by the author of the 750,000 Jewish refugees in 1948 from Arab lands who left under duress, subject to pogroms and losing their belongings following centuries of discrimination.

It is hard for Shehadeh to come to grips with Israel's success to establish a modern Jewish national identity, defined by him as "Zionist colonization," with the revitalized Hebrew language bestowing Hebrew names on the rebuilt landscape that had carried Arab ones. He points at, a non-starter, proposal of his late father, Aziz Shehadeh, following the 1967 War, to use the 1947 Partition Resolution—then denied by the Arabs—for a Palestinian state. Abba Eban, Israel's legendary foreign minister, insightfully coined that the Palestinians "never missed an opportunity to miss an opportunity." Indeed, the controversial Jewish State Law of July 19, 1948, caused understandable consternation among Israeli Arabs, exacerbated by the dropping of Arabic as an official language. Sadly, I share with the author, only 3% of Israeli Jews are literate in Arabic. That is part of an important discussion concerning Israel's better integration into the surrounding Arab Middle East while there are those Israelis who prefer a Western orientation. I suggest that both approaches ought to be pursued tandem.

The book's Part Two is dedicated to the Gaza War, 2023-4, triggered by the October 7, 2023, Hamas's massacres which the author thankfully condemns though seemingly impressed with the military aspects of catching Israel by surprise as Egypt did in the 1973 Yom Kippur War, the breaking through the failed billion plus costly barrier, along with the heavy Israeli fatalities, casualties and captives. "The brutality of Hamas's attack and the civilian death toll certainly cast a shadow on their military success."

Whereas an occupied population has the right under the international law to resist, they have no right to commit war crimes. Still, this time the Palestinians did not fit into the role of victims. To the Israelis it seemed like aggressors who were challenging Israel's very existence."

The astute Shehadeh is surely aware that Gaza was returned to the Palestinians in 2005 by then Prime Minister Sharon, followed by Hamas's forceful occupation and the cruel toppling of the Palestinian Authority there with no elections since the 2006 Hamas's "victory". He regards the Israeli response to the October 7 Nazi-like Hamas's massacres excessive, expecting public Israeli criticism as back in 1982 with the horrific Sabra and Shatila massacres in Lebanon. The author though surely knows that the Christian Phalangists had a decisive hand at that time. Somehow, there is no reference also to Iran's leading role in directing its radical proxies, Hamas, Hezbollah, Houthis and others, to prevent the near peace between Israel and Saudi Arabia with the successful foundation of the Abraham Accords. Also, the author's comparison of Israel to the once South African apartheid state is misleading.

I wholeheartedly concur with Shehadeh's following assessment, "Young Israelis felt secure enough that they planned a rave night on the border with Gaza. But when Hamas broke through Israel's vulnerability and insecurity were exposed. Israelis were traumatized because they realized they couldn't go on with their life in the same way, making the same assumptions about the reality of the state and its security. Unless, that is, they defeated the aggressor." I also share the author's own response to his book's title, "The very high human and material cost of the war in Gaza proves that what Israel fears from Palestine is Palestine's very existence." Surely a Hamas controlled Palestinian state is not accepted by Israel for obvious reasons.

I do appreciate Shehadeh's optimism concerning the future, "And yet, looking back at the history of the region it is only after great upheavals that hopeful consequences