

him and Mrs. Lincoln. Ashmun declined, and Lincoln subsequently wrote a note that read, "Allow Mr. Ashmun and friend to come in at 9 A.M. tomorrow. A. Lincoln. April 14, 1865."

Later that evening, President Lincoln was assassinated. His note inviting Mr. Ashmun to the White House the following day would be Lincoln's last written words.

I call attention to this because it speaks not only to The Republican's involvement in one of the most consequential moments in American history, but also to the paper's constant pursuit of informing its audience of stories throughout the nation and around the world. Over the course of its 200-year history, The Springfield Republican has reported on a Civil War, two world wars, and conflicts across the globe; national triumphs like putting the first man on the moon and the invention of the internet; landmark legislative achievements like giving women the right to vote with the ratification of the 19th Amendment, the genius of Mr. Roosevelt's Social Security Act, and Lyndon Johnson's Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Voting Rights Act of 1965; tragedies like the assassinations of Presidents Lincoln, Garfield, McKinley, and Kennedy, and the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. The Republican has been there through it all.

And while The Republican was there for each and every one of these stories of national and international significance, they have continued to prioritize the reporting of local stories. Or, as they have coined it, "bringing home the news." For the last 200 years, The Springfield Republican has documented the triumphs and tribulations of this region, one filled with a rich history unlike any other; one whose history played a fundamental role in the founding of our Nation and its basic principles, including freedom of the press.

Whether it was covering visits by fifteen U.S. Presidents, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s speech at Springfield College, or foreign dignitaries visiting from around the world, The Springfield Republican was there.

Whether it was the 40 world championships won by Boston's four major sports teams, the invention of basketball by James Naismith, Dr. J's career with UMass basketball, Springfield's own Tim Daggett and his gold medal victory at the 1984 Olympics, or the countless high school athletes who have achieved All-Western Massachusetts honors, The Springfield Republican was there.

When we were ravaged by natural disasters, including the tornado in 2011, The Springfield Republican was there.

When we rebuilt our city and embarked on a renaissance that continues to take place right before our eyes, highlighted by the redevelopment of Springfield Union Station, the reinvigoration of our city's downtown, and transforming centuries-old buildings into state-of-the-art housing, The Springfield Republican was there.

In an ever-changing society, The Republican has endured a constantly transforming media market. In a time where social media dominates our nation's discourse, and misinformation and disinformation run rampant, we can continue to count on The Republican for their commitment to constant objectivity. On the occasion of their bicentennial, I am grateful for their unwavering loyalty to the people of this region.

I think Dave Starr said it best in his column published on October 24, 1999, when the

newspaper celebrated its 175th anniversary. Dave wrote, "Good newspapers like the Republican and the Union News live on because they offer a commodity that is worth the price. It's not just the news and the ads, the television listings and the sports pages, the comics and the crossword puzzles. They are important, but they are just part of what is in a good newspaper."

He continued, "A good newspaper is the embodiment of a community's hopes and dreams, its yearnings and its aspirations. It is the voice of the public it serves. It is the mirror of its community. And equally important, it is the public's guardian against dark forces that would erode or even destroy the people's rights and freedoms."

As we celebrate The Republican's 200th anniversary, we thank all those who have played and continue to play a part in upholding the paper's mission of bringing home the news—news that embodies our community here in the Pioneer Valley and promotes the tenets of a free press.

The Springfield Republican has been there, and they will continue to be there for generations to come. Congratulations from the United States of America.

#### HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO DEBBIE CONARD

#### HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2024*

Ms. VAN DUYN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Debbie Conard, who has dedicated over 20 years to volunteering with the Richardson Fire Department. On the Fire 1 Rehab Team, Debbie supports firefighters during large fires. She is on call 24/7, leading the photography team and responding to structure fires, capturing firefighters as they save lives and property. These images serve as a visual record of the bravery and dedication of our local firefighters and are on display at fire stations throughout the city.

After completing the Citizen Fire Academy (CFA), Debbie joined the CFA Alumni Association, where she served as President for many years and remains active today. Her dedication extends to the Richardson Police Department, where she has volunteered for over 18 years. After completing the Citizen Police Academy (CPA), she continued to stay involved through the board of the CPA Alumni Association, contributing to special events, including National Night Out and Safety Fairs, as well as photographing for CPA classes.

Debbie's dedication to serving North Texans isn't limited to Richardson city limits. She volunteered at the Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Dallas where she engaged patients with crafts, books, and games. She also volunteered with Equest, a therapeutic equestrian riding program for children with diverse needs. Through her involvement with the annual 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb, Debbie helps honor fallen firefighters and police officers who lost their lives in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Debbie is also a volunteer photographer for Honor Flight, which celebrates America's veterans by inviting them to Washington, D.C. to visit the memorials built to commemorate their service and sacrifice.

Those who know and work with Debbie describe her as humble, sincere, and deeply compassionate. She has a generous heart and never seeks recognition of accolades for her efforts. I'd like to thank Debbie Conard for going above and beyond to serve our North Texas community.

#### DETECTIVE MATTHEW KING NAMED OHIO'S 13TH DISTRICT CHAMPION OF THE WEEK

#### HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2024*

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Detective Matthew King of the North Canton Police Department as Ohio's 13th Congressional District Champion of the Week.

Detective King was recognized by his peers as the Police Officer of the year for the North Canton Police Department. King has been a police officer since 2018, and has been with the North Canton Police Department since 2019.

In 2021, Officer King was promoted to Detective King when he graduated as the Valuedictorian of his Drug Recognition Expert Class, earning a 99.14 percent grade point average.

He is also a member of the Stark County Metro Narcotics Unit and the OVI Task Force.

This honor is not Detective King's first award. In 2021, he was awarded the Stark County Traffic Office of the Year. Detective King has been a model police officer for many years.

Once again, I'd like to congratulate Detective Matthew King on this distinction, and thank him for his tireless public service to North Canton. He is a perfect example of why Ohio's 13th Congressional District is known as the "Birthplace of Champions."

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. WILEY NICKEL

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2024*

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, I was away from the floor during the vote on September 18. Had I been present, I would have voted YES on Roll Call No. 428.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PUERTO RICAN ASSOCIATION FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

#### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2024*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Puerto Rican Association for Human Development (PRAHD) as they celebrate their historic 50-year milestone of service. On September 19, 2024, they commemorate this accomplishment at PRAHD's Annual Roberto Clemente Gala. It is my privilege to

recognize the outstanding efforts of PRAHD to improve the well-being of our communities.

The rich history of this organization started with the mindset of the late Roberto Clemente. As a human service agency, the PRAHD staff is dedicated to being an open door for community members facing life altering obstacles. Honorably, the amazing organization has served over 14,000 people in the last year, feeding over 400 families annually. In May of 1974, the organization began their impact by operating youth services within Perth Amboy and have since expanded to serve Middlesex, Monmouth, Union, and Hudson counties.

For 50 years, PRAHD has succeeded in an exemplary campaign for the betterment of impoverished individuals. Their expansive human services empower the individual to reach their highest potential. I applaud PRAHD for its remarkable generosity.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in honoring the Puerto Rican Association for Human Development for their contributions to the community and congratulating them on this 50-year milestone.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. GREG LANDSMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2024*

Mr. LANDSMAN. Mr. Speaker, during Roll Call Vote Number 429 on H.R. 7909, I mistakenly recorded my vote as NAY when I should have voted YEA.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2024*

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately missed the vote for the Anti-BDS Labeling Act (H.R. 5179). Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 428.

#### RECOGNIZING AND HONORING PAT GOIN'S SERVICE AS CHAIR OF THE NORTH AMERICAN BLUEBERRY COUNCIL

#### HON. RUDY YAKYM III

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2024*

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate Pat Goin, who will be concluding her tenure as Chair of the North American Blueberry Council at the end of this year.

This August, I had the honor of visiting Pat and her husband Kevin at their blueberry farm, Goin's Blueberry Lane, in North Judson, Indiana as part of my district-wide "Factories, Freeways, and Fields" tour.

During my visit, I had the opportunity to learn more about their family-owned and operated blueberry farm that has been in business since 1980. Just as importantly, I was able to see firsthand Pat's great character and the

passion she has for consistently putting out a high-quality product over all these years.

I am immensely grateful to Pat for the warm hospitality that my team and I received on our visit, as well as for the fresh and ripe blueberries that she, Kevin, and their family have been producing for more than 40 years.

I also greatly appreciate the leadership that Pat has provided to the North American Blueberry Council in her role as Chair on behalf of our blueberry producers and those connected to the blueberry industry all across our country. Our farmers and agricultural producers are some of the most industrious and important men and women anywhere in America, and I know that Pat has done a great service by effectively advocating on behalf of blueberry growers and their interests.

God bless Pat Goin.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF MARVIN TURNER

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2024*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Marvin Turner, who passed away on August 12, 2024. Marvin was a dedicated civil servant and worked tirelessly to make the District of Columbia the 51st state.

Marvin was a native of Atlanta, Georgia. After graduating high school, Marvin joined Job Corps and then began his career fighting for the rights of workers and for fair housing in North Carolina and South Carolina with the Service Employees International Union.

Marvin came to D.C. to work for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. Soon after arriving in D.C., Marvin became a staffer for then-Mayor Sharon Pratt and then became a member of my staff. In 2013, Marvin was appointed as a commissioner on the District of Columbia Sentencing and Criminal Code Revision Commission, where he worked with other commissioners and D.C. Councilmembers to revise sentencing guidelines and the criminal code.

During his career, Marvin worked closely with Reverend Jesse Jackson as an advance staffer, as well as serving as the D.C. Statehood Coordinator for the National Rainbow Coalition. Marvin's work on the local and national levels ultimately led to him working for the Democratic National Committee's Office of the Secretary for nearly 20 years.

Marvin's work left an indelible mark on both D.C. and our Nation. I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the incredible life and legacy of Marvin Turner.

#### CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS AND OTHER MATTERS ACT, 2025

SPEECH OF

#### HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2024*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this six-month Continuing Resolution and the accompanying SAVE Act.

Most of us do not want a CR and it is deeply unfortunate that one is necessary. Once again, the Senate did not get its work done and failed to pass any Appropriations bills off the floor. The House Republican Majority wasted months writing bills loaded with extreme social policy that the American people do not want. And still, Republicans only passed half their bills—why? Because they were so unpopular with their own conference.

Having failed to complete this work, Republicans now want to kick the can for six months. They will waste half the fiscal year, costing taxpayers billions of dollars. A CR this long would be irresponsible. The Department of Defense has also identified the consequences for our national security. A six-month CR would have negative impacts on our Military Personnel and their families. It would not include funds to cover the 4.5 percent pay raise for Service Members. It would not fund the nearly \$3 billion increase required by law for the Basic Housing Allowance. And it would not include funds needed to cover medical costs for military families and stabilize the Military Healthcare System.

The Services would not be able to offer new enlistment and reenlistment bonuses—harming recruitment efforts. New program starts can't happen under a CR. This harms innovation and delays getting weapons and equipment into the hands of our personnel quickly. Keeping major defense programs on time and on budget will be more difficult. A CR will delay multi-year procurement of platforms like: heavy lift helicopters and Virginia Class Submarines. It will pause investments in our space-based satellite architecture. It will prevent full funding for the Columbia Class Submarine, and delay procurement of the B-21 Raider. Finally, CR's damage the readiness of the Joint Force. Training exercises and operations that are needed to ensure we can win any fight—they won't happen.

The Navy will suffer a delay of 58 ship maintenance availabilities, limiting work for our public and private shipyards. Air Force flying hours, weapon system sustainment, and ground combat readiness will suffer. We know this to be true—why?

We just had a nearly six-month CR in Fiscal Year 2024 which impacted DoD's ability to budget appropriately. The last thing we should do is compound this problem. We also have the Fiscal Responsibility Act to consider. Because if all 12 appropriations bills are not enacted by the end of April, sequestration takes effect.

What does that mean? Across the board spending cuts impacting everything from national security, to infrastructure, to healthcare and education. That is a gamble none of us should want to take.

To make a bad deal even worse, the Speaker has tacked on a partisan voter-suppression tool known as the SAVE Act, in an attempt to appease his most extreme Members. If this bill became law, the vast majority of Americans would need more than one document to vote. We need to be removing barriers to the ballot box not adding more. The Senate will not pass this bill, and it will not become law. We should reject this legislation—pass a clean short-term CR—and roll up our sleeves and get to work.