

witness to Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have A Dream" speech and found joy in sharing his stories of the famed 1963 March on Washington. When President John F. Kennedy visited Amherst College, where Mr. Meisner was working towards his bachelor's degree, he led a student-protest calling for a civil rights bill.

As a legal professional, Mr. Meisner often donated his time as a volunteer judge in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, providing free legal representation to those who needed it, and serving as a mentor and a teacher. He was dedicated to giving back to the community and considered it a privilege to mentor young law students.

Mitchell Meisner passed away on June 20, 2024, after an admirable battle with pancreatic cancer. He is survived by his incredible wife, Marica, who resides in their longtime home in Huntington Woods; his brother, Jon; his three children, Jesse, Geoff, and Amy; and his seven grandsons.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply honored, on his 81st birthday, to recognize the life and service of Mitchell Meisner, who dedicated his work to uplifting the voices of those most in need. Please join me in celebrating this wonderful individual whom I miss dearly and was proud to call a friend.

HONORING MARTIN COUNTY SHERIFF AND CONDEMNING ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AGAINST FORMER PRESIDENT TRUMP

HON. BRIAN J. MAST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I rise to condemn the September 15, 2024 attempt on Former President Trump's life and to honor the Martin County Sheriff's Office for their bravery in apprehending the would-be assassin.

The attempt on Former President Trump's life was a cowardly act aimed at the very heart of our Republic. We are nearly a month away from an election where tens of millions of people will decide the next commander-in-chief.

Yet, this would-be assassin was selfish enough, deluded enough, and cowardly enough to try and rob us of that opportunity. But in that moment of darkness, courage blazed through.

The heroes of the Martin County Sheriff's Office acted with incredible speed and bravery, risking their lives to apprehend the would-be assassin before he could harm others. Their valor turned a potential national tragedy into a story of triumph over evil.

Let's honor these men and women for their valor. They stand as a beacon of what it means to protect and serve.

Let's also reaffirm that political violence has no place in our discourse. We should always stand united in the face of those who seek to divide us.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF THE DEARING RAILROAD CAR

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Dearing Railroad Car on the occasion of its 100th Birthday. As one of the few remaining 100-year-old railroad cars still in operation in the United States, the Dearing Railroad Car holds a unique and significant place in Georgia's and in our nation's history. The Dearing's 100th anniversary takes place on October 18, 2024, and a celebration of its life will be held in Cordele, Georgia.

Initially called "Thompson" the Pullman shops began manufacturing The Dearing in 1924, finishing the car in 1925. The Dearing remains one of the last of its time to still be in operation in the United States.

Over the years, The Dearing has run trips on several different railroads as both a sleeper and office car. In 2006, the car was purchased by Columbus, Georgia residents Nelson and Borden McGahee who are still its current owners.

The Dearing spent eight years traversing the United States on Amtrak, allowing passengers to journey across the country and through time when they stepped through the car. In 2020, The Dearing joined the SAM Shortline and continues to contribute to local economies and communities. The SAM Shortline has a multi-million-dollar economic impact in Southwest Georgia, boosting the tourism needed to support our small towns in the area.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian and me, along with the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's 2nd Congressional District, in celebrating the 100th Birthday of The Dearing Railroad Car and honoring the history of American railroads, which were so important to Georgia's growth and rich history and culture.

RECOGNIZING HARRIS FAULKNER

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harris Faulkner, who was named a 2024 She Leads Woman of Distinction.

Harris Faulkner is a six-time Emmy award-winning news anchor who believes that faith in God, still moves mountains. She began her rise in TV news reporting at WNCT-TV (CBS 9) in Greenville, North Carolina and after several career moves she joined FOX News Channel in 2005 where she currently helms two top-rated daily daytime programs "The Faulkner Focus" and "Outnumbered."

Throughout her tenure at the network, Faulkner has played integral roles in FNC's election coverage, hosted numerous primetime specials, interviewed many notable figures and covered global news events.

As a result of her excellence in broadcast journalism and serving as the only Black woman to anchor two back-to-back cable

news programs, Faulkner has received many notable awards including being named to WORTH Magazine's "Groundbreakers" list, honoring 50 influential women worldwide for breaking barriers in their industries. In 2021, Variety's New York Women's Impact Report honored Faulkner. And at the National Press Club she was named the Multicultural Media and Correspondents Association's Broadcast Journalist of the Year.

Faulkner is a speaker, author, and philanthropist. Her 2023 FOX News Books title "Faith Still Moves Mountains," became number one on the New York Times bestseller's list. She penned the national bestseller "9 Rules of Engagement: A Military Brat's Guide to Life and Success" in 2018.

Faulkner actively raises awareness and funds for numerous organizations offering immediate and ongoing support to the U.S. Military forces and their families. Additionally, she's dedicated to intensifying research around childhood diseases. In 1998, Harris Faulkner received the Amelia Earhart Pioneering Lifetime Achievement Award for her humanitarian efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this inspiring woman of distinction.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF STEPHEN W. SCHILLING

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary spirit and life of Stephen W. Schilling: a great son, husband, father, advocate, and community leader.

Bill and Ruth Schilling gave birth to Stephen on Thanksgiving Day, 1946, in San Francisco, California. He graduated Marin Catholic High School in 1964. In 1969, he graduated from California State University-Chico majoring in businesses. He also pursued his graduated studies in Public Administration. President Kennedy's call to public duty inspired him to join the United States Peace Corps, where he served in Venezuela from 1971 to 1973. Schilling took over the clinic at a difficult time, as it was on the verge of bankruptcy and was about to be closed down by financial and regulatory officials.

After a few years, he was promoted to Clinica Sierra Vista's CEO. His tremendous work, combined with an amazing staff, allowed the clinic to flourish and become one of the largest varied and clinically trained health and human services nonprofits in the country. Clinica Sierra Vista's operations has had a good impact on the lives of many different communities, including farmworker and senior populations, rural villages, unhoused persons, the urban poor, and those without insurance.

Steve spent nearly 45 years, and his transformative leadership can be seen in the growth of the clinic, going from a dozen employees to twelve hundred; from two hundred thousand dollars to one hundred twenty million dollars per year and from an operation housed in a trailer to more than 70 service locations throughout three counties in Central California serving thousands of people every day.

His joy for life was mirrored in his interests, which included gardening in his yard, sports,

fishing, hunting, and travel, as well as community activities. Steve was a founding member of the Rotary Club of Bakersfield. He was also a member of several community organizations, including the Human Relations Commission, the Children's Network, nine chambers of commerce, and numerous other organizations, demonstrating his commitment to serving by staying informed about the needs of the valley's many vulnerable populations.

In Steve's passing, we celebrate a life that left an indelible mark on all who were fortunate enough to know him. His legacy lives on in his family; wife Deidre, children Christina, Mari, Sheridan, John, and grandchildren Sofia and Vivienne. May we draw inspiration from Steve's enduring spirit and the richness of a life well-lived.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the memory of Stephen W. Schilling.

OCTOBER 7

HON. JENNIFER A. KIGGANS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

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

OCTOBER 7

October 7
First anniversary for an old-new pogrom
With Holocaust dimensions
In a land deserving Shalom's program
While pursued by ghastly ghosts
It seeks to overcome
Under the blazing sun that rarely forgives
But dares not forget,
Watching over challenged tender
Saplings of renewed faith restored
To a promising ancient home,
Fledglings of hope sans the
Threatening clouds raining
Death for too long,
To remove fences obstructing
The view of hands touching hands,
Hearts joining hearts,
Buried dreams in the
Sands of time and trouble,
To yet resurface to quench
The thirst of the conflicted
Children of Yitzchak and Yishmael
Who will learn to drink from
The same to-be-recovered well
That once brought life to
Now a deserted tent.

Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman is the founder of Temple Lev Tikvah in Virginia Beach. Kazakhstan's only born rabbi, he is the son of Polish Holocaust Survivors and spent his early childhood in transit and DP Camps in Austria and Germany. He grew up in Haifa, Israel.

HONORING TOM RAFFIO FOR RECEIVING THE WALTER R. PETERSON AWARD

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Tom Raffio on receiving the Walter R.

Peterson Award for Education and Public Service. The Walter R. Peterson Award for Education and Public Service is presented to an individual whose contributions best exemplify the late governor's values of public service and dedication to higher education.

As a passionate civic leader, Tom's community leadership spans across numerous New Hampshire organizations that support local education initiatives, youth programs, health causes, and the arts. Tom believes in the importance of access and affordability to quality post-secondary education for all New Hampshire residents.

Under Tom's leadership, the Northeast Delta Dental Foundation is committed to improving oral health care accessibility and education. This Foundation supports oral health programs each year throughout New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine. It also addresses the shortage of dentists in under-served communities by raising funding for medicine scholarships and dental education loan repayment programs. In New Hampshire, one of the dental health education programs serves adult clients with disabilities, many of whom encounter oral health challenges. Further expanding its community impact under Tom's leadership, it has grown to include numerous local community partners to join this philanthropic mission.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to extend my gratitude to Tom Raffio for his exceptional commitment to serving New Hampshire. We thank Tom for his leadership and contributions to advance health equity and the overall wellness of our local communities. His work has enriched so many lives and is an inspiration for us all to join together and improve the lives of our community members.

RECOGNIZING DAVID MARSHALL

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Battalion Chief David Marshall of Cañon City for reaching his well-earned retirement after a 46-year career with the Cañon City Area Fire Protection District.

Chief Marshall began his career as a volunteer firefighter with the Cañon City Volunteer Fire Department in 1978. Since the 1980s, he has served as leader of the District's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) division. David led EMS trainings for over 30 years at Pueblo Community College, where he taught and mentored the majority of EMS professionals serving in Fremont County today. Many of them have since gone on to lead their own EMS programs across the state. In his time leading the EMS division of the Cañon City Fire Protection District, David enhanced the EMT training to more advanced certifications, including Advanced Life Support (ALS) and Paramedic level providers. His work and effort elevated the level of care provided to his community.

Chief Marshall's legacy of bringing access to emergency services and trainings to rural communities will live on across Colorado through the generations of EMS providers he mentored. His strong, dependable leadership sets an example for all Coloradans, and his

teachings will forever have an impact on Fremont County.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Battalion Chief Marshall on his retirement and to thank him for his contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT COLONEL HAROLD EUGENE RAFUSE, USAF, RETIRED, WITH A CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor retired USAF Lieutenant Colonel Harold Eugene Rafuse, of Crawford, Texas, by presenting him with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. His persistent efforts in fostering beliefs of sacrifice and respect reflect his value as a leader during service and in retirement.

Lieutenant Colonel Rafuse devoted nearly 20 years to active duty in the United States Air Force serving with distinction in a variety of critical roles. As an airborne Forward Air Controller and close air support combat fighter pilot, he flew the North American T-28D Trojan aircraft in Southeast Asia as a Raven Pilot, providing vital support to ground forces. He also piloted the RC-135 aircraft, conducting high-altitude photographic and electronic reconnaissance missions in Eastern and Southeast Asia, significantly contributing to our national security efforts.

Later in his career, he was selected for the newly established United States Air Force Space Operations Command, where he served as a space operations and surveillance commander. His leadership in this emerging field showcased his adaptability and commitment to advancing our Nation's capabilities in space.

Lieutenant Colonel Rafuse's 20 years of active service are complemented by his extensive experience in aviation, aerospace, scientific research, engineering, technology, education, senior program management, information resource management, and administration. He held influential positions across the Department of Defense, multiple federal intelligence agencies, and various civilian educational and business institutions. Notably, he served as a science and technology advisor to the Office of President Ronald Reagan, a testament to his expertise and the trust placed in him at the highest levels of government.

By the time of his retirement, his exceptional achievements had earned him numerous titles and certifications, including Senior Pilot in the Air Force, Senior Space Operations Commander, Space Surveillance and Mission Assessment Expert, Command Missileer, Master Acquisition Manager (Department of Defense Level III certified), and Master Instructor.

Lieutenant Colonel Rafuse's decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the National Defense Service Medal, the Air Force