

Dan began his career as a clinical social worker and went on to manage a counseling center for combat veterans in Roanoke, ensuring our heroes received the support they needed.

He was a constant presence in the veteran community, taking on numerous volunteer and public service roles, always with humility and a profound commitment to his fellow veterans.

He served on essential boards like the State Board of Mental Health, the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority, and Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare.

Dan was also an active member of organizations such as the Rotary, Kiwanis, American Legion, and Veterans of Foreign Wars, among others.

Dan is survived by his beloved wife of 50 years, Nancy Walters Karnes. His dear friend, Captain Gary Powers, once said that he was an individual who selflessly dedicated his life to helping others in need.

This is a true testament to a meaningful life well lived. Let us honor Dan's legacy by continuing to support our veterans and those in need in our communities.

CELEBRATING CAPTAIN LELAND TEETS' 100TH
BIRTHDAY

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable individual from Virginia's Sixth District, Captain Leland Teets, and his service to our Nation.

Captain Teets embodies what it means to be a devoted American, and his birthday on June 25 marked 100 years of patriotism.

Throughout World War II, Leland Teets served with the United States Army. He stormed Utah Beach on D-day, surviving two gunshot wounds to the leg from a German soldier.

After his bravery on that fateful day, Captain Teets spent 153 days in England undergoing medical care before continuing to serve in the Battle of the Bulge.

However, Captain Teets' legacy goes far beyond his military service. Returning home, he dedicated 35 years as a security officer for the Mount Weather facility in Clarke County, Virginia, contributing to the safety of our community and our Nation.

I wish Captain Teets a belated happy birthday and extend our deepest gratitude and best wishes on behalf of Virginia's Sixth District.

CELEBRATING ALPHA KAPPA
ALPHA SORORITY, INC., GREAT
LAKES REGION CENTENNIAL AN-
NIVERSARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. SYKES) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the incredible women of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Great Lakes Region.

This Saturday, the Great Lakes Region will celebrate its centennial anniversary. For 100 years, our region has

risen to the call to serve all mankind in our communities across five States; Michigan, Ohio, western New York, western Pennsylvania, and western Virginia with 97 graduate and undergraduate chapters, all united in a common cause to serve our communities and to serve all mankind.

The Great Lakes Region is home to over 7,000 accomplished, intelligent, dedicated, and service-oriented members, including the members of my own chapter, Zeta Theta Omega.

I am honored to recognize the work this region has done and continues to do for the people of the Great Lakes Region each and every day, united in our sisterhood's mission.

We represent a variety of occupations and disciplines, but we come together because we are truly greater together.

We always dedicate our work to the things that are worthwhile, and we always do it with a smile. Together, we are making a real difference in our communities, and I am so proud to be a part of this powerful sisterhood.

Finally, I specifically recognize Gwendolyn Kirtley, the Great Lakes regional director, for her leadership, and the many regional directors of the past who have made the great Great Lakes Region soar and thrive.

We are thankful for their commitment to our sisterhood and to their service as we celebrate our last 100 years and prepare for 100 more.

Once again, congratulations to all of the members of the great Great Lakes Region as we celebrate our centennial.

HONORING JONES BOOTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. ALFORD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Jones Boots of Vernon County, Missouri, as our Fourth Congressional District September Small Business of the Month.

From the humble beginnings of two employees and an inventory of just 500 pairs of boots, Jones Boots has expanded their selection over the years to more than 6,000 pairs. They have renovated their building, always focused on the customer.

Jones Boots has been in business since 1974, and they have operated in pretty much the same building they are in to this day.

Jones Boots has been in the Jones family for more than four generations and is now run by Kaleb and Kaden. We are proud to see their hard work, success, and dedication to quality customer service.

Congratulations, Jones Boots.

HONORING SHARLA HOWARD

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor our September Veteran of the Month, Mrs. Sharla Howard of Dallas County.

Sharla served in the U.S. Army and sustained an injury during training that led to her eventually being medically discharged.

It bothered Sharla that she could not deploy with her platoon in the military, so she searched for other ways to serve her country and our Nation's veterans.

She paid for and completed college alone as a single mother and in 2016 was inspired by her late husband to become a Disabled American Veterans life member at the chapter in Butler, Missouri.

Sharla volunteers her time as a chapter service officer where she assists veterans with completing paperwork to file for VA benefits. She also serves as the treasurer and bingo chairman for her chapter. Sharla has logged more than 2,000 volunteer hours since August of 2023.

Congratulations to our September Veteran of the Month. I thank Sharla for her service in the Army and for her unwavering commitment to veterans.

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OSCEOLA CHEESE HONORED AS OCTOBER SMALL
BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Osceola Cheese, our October Small Business of the Month in the great Fourth Congressional District of Missouri.

Established in 1944, Osceola has provided cheese, beef jerky, various meat selections—I know you are getting hungry, Mr. Speaker—and also specialty sauces and mixes to Missouri and to the United States.

With the business growing, they acquired a new building in 1946, including 15 trucks. They were collecting milk from 1,000 dairy farms across our great State. When Truman Lake began to develop, the business relocated to 13 Highway and officially changed from Riverview Cheese to Osceola Cheese in St. Claire County.

Osceola has continued to expand with facility redesigns, new flavors, and new snacks. They have more than 275 varieties of cheese, from mild cheddar to chocolate cheese. That is right, I said chocolate cheese.

Congratulations to Osceola Cheese for 79 years of success. Mr. Speaker, say along with me, 79 years of great cheese. Say cheese.

GINNY FLETCHER NAMED OCTOBER VETERAN OF
THE MONTH

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our October Veteran of the Month, Ginny Fletcher, of Webster County.

Ginny joined the Missouri Army National Guard in 2007 as a welder and deployed to Afghanistan from 2010 to 2011. She served with Missouri ADT IV Mission, an agribusiness development team that improved local agriculture and business infrastructure.

Ginny's fondest memories include her women's engagement team teaching Afghan children first aid and organizing activities. The team also empowered local women by teaching them to raise chickens, grow crops, and create sellable items.

After completing her service as an E-4 specialist in 2017, Ginny worked for

the State of Missouri. Right now she supervises benefit programs for the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I thank Ginny so much for her dedication and service.

A'JA WILSON MAKES WNBA HISTORY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the first woman in history to score 1,000 points in a single WNBA season, the Las Vegas Aces' very own A'ja Wilson.

I had the honor of witnessing A'ja make history last Sunday against the Connecticut Suns, where her signature fade-away mid-range jumper landed her in the history books once again.

A'ja and the rest of the back-to-back world championship Vegas Aces are well known for breaking records, but this one felt particularly special.

I thank A'ja and everyone in the Vegas Aces family for making their city proud. We look forward to cheering them all on as the Aces get one step closer to going back to back to back this year.

POE PINSON FEVER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a monumental achievement for northeast Florida. I speak of none other than Fernandina Beach's own 19-year-old skating phenom, Poe Pinson, who made history skateboarding at the 2024 Olympics in Paris.

From an early age, friends and parents alike at Main Beach Skate Park were impressed by her skills. Mr. Speaker, she started competing when she was only 6 years old. From her small-town roots to the international stage of the Olympics, her hard work and talent catapulted her to finishing fifth in the world, exemplifying the grit and passion of both our community and America.

Mr. Speaker, her hometown of Fernandina Beach went full Poe Pinson, had the fever of Poe Pinson. We had countless yard signs that said simply: "Go Poe." There was a watch party for watching the women's skateboarding event. You had to get up before dawn to go attend the party, and it was packed, Mr. Speaker. Her hometown was all in on Poe Pinson.

Mr. Speaker, not long ago, skateboarding wasn't even an Olympic sport. Yet, here we are having witnessed Poe's debut in the women's street skateboarding event. Just last month, the Fernandina Beach City Commission honored Poe by naming the Main Beach Skate Park after her.

I ask my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, to join me in recognizing this exceptional young woman. Poe's hometown and her

country are extremely proud of her, and we cannot wait to see her shred at Poe Pinson Park again. We are very proud of her, Mr. Speaker.

OLD FORGE AND FELITTO NAMED SISTER CITIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CARTWRIGHT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a remarkable and historic milestone that unites two communities across the Atlantic Ocean.

It is with great pride and joy that I announce the official designation of Old Forge, Pennsylvania, and Felitto, Italy, as sister cities.

This designation not only honors our shared heritage but also strengthens the bond of friendship and cultural exchange between our two communities.

Old Forge, situated in the heart of northeastern Pennsylvania, has long been a beacon of Italian-American culture. Known affectionately as the pizza capital of the world, Old Forge boasts a rich history that is deeply intertwined with the Italian immigrant experience.

In the late 1800s and early 1900s, waves of immigrants from Felitto, a picturesque town in the Campania region of southern Italy, made their way to Old Forge, then known as Muddtown. Their arrival marked the beginning of a new chapter in the community's history, bringing with them their traditions, values, and of course, their beloved culinary heritage.

Felitto, located in the province of Salerno, is renowned for its artisanal fusilli pasta and its vibrant annual celebration, the Fusillo Festival. This festival is a testament to Felitto's commitment to family, community, and the joy of food.

The town's dedication to preserving its cultural traditions and fostering a strong sense of community is mirrored in the town of Old Forge.

The Felittese Association of Old Forge, now in its 35th year, hosts the city's annual Felittese Italian Festival on the second weekend in September in commemoration of Our Lady of Constantinople, who has been venerated in the town of Felitto since 1790.

Much like Felitto's Fusillo Festival, this annual celebration stands as a proud homage to Old Forge's Italian roots by celebrating the rich tapestry of Italian culture through home-cooked food and music with family, friends, and neighbors. It is a cherished tradition that underscores the deep connections that bind our two communities.

The sister city designation between Old Forge and Felitto represents more than just a symbolic gesture. It is a recognition of the shared heritage and enduring ties that unite the two places. It honors the legacy of the Italian immigrants who contributed so profoundly to Old Forge, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the United

States of America, and acknowledges the vibrant culture that continues to thrive today.

This partnership will strengthen economic ties and enhance the mutual understanding between our two communities. It is a celebration of our shared history and a commitment to continuing the traditions that have enriched our lives and nations.

As we commemorate this new chapter in the relationship between Old Forge and Felitto, let us honor the contributions of the Italian immigrants who helped shape our communities. Their legacy lives on in the vibrant celebrations, the delectable cuisine, and the strong sense of community that defines both Old Forge and Felitto.

As a Member of the U.S. House representing northeastern Pennsylvania, I extend my heartfelt congratulations on this historic announcement and achievement. May this sister city relationship continue to flourish and bring us ever closer.

VILLAGE OF SLEEPY HOLLOW CELEBRATES 150TH ANNIVERSARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAWLER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Village of Sleepy Hollow.

Nestled on the Hudson River just 20 miles north of New York City, the Village of Sleepy Hollow is 5.2 square miles of history and intrigue.

Sleepy Hollow was immortalized by Washington Irving's spooky tale of the Headless Horseman. The real Sleepy Hollow, however, isn't haunted or a place of nightmares but, rather, a community of men and women living their American Dream.

Some famous residents include former Vice President of the United States and Governor of New York, Nelson Rockefeller, Olympic Gold Medal-winning decathlete Caitlyn Jenner, and Pearl Harbor survivor and Bronze Star recipient Armando "Chick" Galella.

It is the home of Phelps Hospital, J.P. Doyle's, the Rockefeller State Park Preserve, the Sleepy Hollow Lighthouse, and Sleepy Hollow Country Club, and more. Yes, their Halloween parades and Great Jack O'Lantern Blaze are a frighteningly good time, too.

This past weekend, I was honored to join my Sleepy Hollow constituents to celebrate the historic village's incredible milestone. As I stood among friends, neighbors, and local leaders, I was filled with pride for what Sleepy Hollow represents: a rich heritage, strong community values, and a bright future ahead.

Today, we are joined by several of the Village board members, including Tom Andruss, Jared Rodriguez, James Husselbee, and Deputy Mayor Denise Scaglione. Unfortunately, Mayor Martin Rutyna and Trustees Patrick