

Lisa volunteers for many causes. As the chair of the Democratic Spouses Forum, Lisa welcomes and helps spouses understand how to navigate the unique dynamics of the life of a Congress Member's spouse.

My wife, Norma, met Lisa 12 years ago and has benefited from Lisa's wisdom and friendship. Lisa works hard behind the scenes and is someone who does not seek credit or praise. She just does things out of the kindness of her heart.

Congressman JIM MCGOVERN is Lisa's husband. JIM has represented Massachusetts' Second Congressional District since 1996. For nearly three decades, many of us have come to count on Lisa's knowledge, experiences, her compassion, and friendship. Her enormous heart extends beyond just helping us, the Members and the spouses, she has made it her life's work to take the fight to cancer.

Her fight is personal as Lisa lost her mother to lung cancer in 1996 and has given every effort to the cause.

Lisa McGovern is the executive director of the Prevent Cancer Foundation's Congressional Families Program. She has spent two decades cultivating relationships with many national political leaders, encouraging them to use their platforms to promote cancer prevention and early detection.

Her tireless work has been very fruitful. Lisa has put together high-profile Capitol Hill events to raise awareness about the foundation's work and has brought out some high-level personalities and popular celebrities to help.

Mr. Speaker, Lisa's work and care have not gone unnoticed.

On behalf of my wife, Norma, I extend my deep gratitude and sincere appreciation for every single thing that she has done for us. From the bottom of my heart, I thank her for sharing the love, mentorship, and friendship to so many of us.

HONORING CHRISTINA WINTERS FOR HER
INCREDIBLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a successful, self-made businesswoman, a philanthropist, a motivator, a luminary, and a great friend, Christina Winters, for her incredible accomplishments.

Christina Winters, a factory worker's daughter, comes from a simple blue-collar household that taught her critical principles and the values that shaped her unique character and life's work.

She grew up in the household with very little money where she managed to learn the value of a hard-earned dollar, and applied her knowledge and experiences into a long and successful career helping others manage their finances in order to enjoy a prosperous life.

Today, Christina Winters is the president and CEO of Creating and Managing Wealth, CMW, LLC. Based out of Irving, Texas, CMW is a business dedicated to looking out for the very best interests of people. This business is the

very reflection of Christina's very essence.

I had the pleasure of working for Christina very early on in my life. As my boss, Christina was always so generous with her time and her knowledge. Christina is the kind of boss that everyone would be blessed to have. Christina has been a lifelong mentor and friend to me.

Over the years, I have seen firsthand Christina's commitment to help and uplift others. She has become a very influential leader in the world of finance and life planning, and has evolved to become a successful leadership builder.

She has successfully navigated and overcome our male-dominated corporate environment. Christina has stepped up into positions of leadership and power. Today, she is sharing her stories and invaluable advice to help empower women and people of color to step up into their leadership roles.

In addition to her professional accomplishments, Christina Winters has had a long track record of volunteering and taking on numerous philanthropic causes. We could spend countless hours going through each and every one of her community service accolades because she has dedicated her life to giving back. For this reason and many more reasons, I honor her today.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Christina for being a loving, caring mentor to many of us. She has touched and changed the trajectory of many of our lives, including my own. I encourage her to continue on this great path of sharing and giving of herself for many, many more years to come.

CONCLUDING MY SERVICE IN CONGRESS WITH GRATITUDE AND HUMILITY

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

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with gratitude and humility as I conclude my service to New York's 19th Congressional District. Representing the people of upstate New York in this historic Chamber has truly been the honor of a lifetime.

This journey has been guided by the values, aspirations, and resilience of the families, farmers, and small businesses that are the backbone of our district, from the Massachusetts-New York border, across the Hudson River Valley, through the Catskill Mountains, to central New York, and into the Southern Tier.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the people of this amazing upstate New York District for their trust, their support, and their unwavering belief in me. Representing them was never just a job; it was a deeply personal mission.

Their faith in me inspired every decision we made, every vote cast, every moment spent advocating for our shared future.

Together, we focused on what truly matters: delivering results for the people and places that make our district extraordinary, and we met challenges head-on.

Together, we tackled the fentanyl and mental health crisis, securing Federal funding to expand stabilization centers in Broome and Sullivan Counties. These efforts remind us that no one should have to face their struggles alone. We championed the ThinkDIFFERENTLY initiative on the national stage, breaking down barriers and creating opportunities for individuals with physical, intellectual, and developmental disabilities and creating new opportunities for employment, education, and social services.

We worked to safeguard the Hudson River, preserve farmland, and protected our most precious natural resources for generations to come. Amid inflation and border crises, we sought solutions that would make a tangible difference for everyday Americans. Through tireless bipartisan collaboration, we passed over 40 pieces of legislation, earning recognition as New York's most bipartisan lawmaker.

This work was only possible because of the extraordinary team we assembled, individuals whose dedication and heart I will not soon forget.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my chief of staff, Jeff Bishop; deputy chief of staff, Dan Kranz; district director, Caitlin Daly; legislative director, Connor Torossian; scheduler, Maddie Bruno; legislative assistants, Kaitlyn Mullen and Doug Gordon; legislative correspondent, Nick Urbin; field representatives, Nicole Leonard and Alex Horton; constituent caseworkers, Michelle Speech and Sean Lisk; press assistant, Hannah Benfield; outreach coordinator, Ciano Briga; constituent services representative, Ben Straebler; staff assistant, Noelle Dana; and other members of team Molinaro: Jessica Akshar, Caroline Doxsee, Tyler Gutches, Alex Holderith, Kate McKan, Maddy Minahan, and Rick Yackel for their hard work and selfless dedication. It has been the cornerstone of all of our achievements.

Mr. Speaker, I say to my colleagues and friends who serve and represent the State of New York, Republicans and Democrats alike, their friendship and support has been so gratifying, and it has been a pleasure these last 30 years to work with most of them.

Finally, let me thank my family. My wife, Corinne, is a superhero, filled with strength, love, and patience, and I am grateful to her and my children: Abigail, Jack, Elias, and Theo, each amazing and accepting and wonderful in their own special way. I am thankful to my mother, Dona, who instilled in us a desire to pursue truth, work hard, and serve others.

They are all my foundation, my heart, my greatest source of strength. They stood side by side with me every step of the way, and this journey was ours together. I am endlessly grateful for their love and sacrifice.

As my time in Congress comes to an end, let me be very clear: Public service is not just something I do; it is who I am. From America's youngest mayor to Congressman serving upstate New York, this for me is not a good-bye. It is the start of a new chapter. I will continue to fight for the values we share, advocate for the communities we love, and work tirelessly to make our country better, stronger, and more united.

Perhaps I will be blessed with the opportunity to again serve here in this most fundamentally American deliberative House.

Mr. Speaker, let me conclude by thanking the people of New York's 19th Congressional District, upstate New York, for the privilege of serving them. May God continue to bless them, upstate New York, and the United States of America.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings is in violation of the rules of the House.

FAREWELL TO CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today full of gratitude for having had the incredible privilege of representing New Hampshire's Second Congressional District for the past 12 years.

New Hampshire doesn't have a national sports team. I have long said politics is our pastime, and it has been such a joy to advocate for my friends, my family, neighbors, and our State in this arena.

My time in these Halls has been many things: rewarding, inspiring, challenging, and, yes, at times, frustrating. However, more than anything, it has been truly the greatest honor of my life.

When I was first elected, I promised to bring a new approach to Washington, to reach across the aisle, and to build bridges whenever possible. As I look back at the end of my time in Congress, I am immensely proud of that record.

Over the past 12 years, I have seen Congress at its most and least efficient. With the clarity of hindsight, I can say that our government really, truly does work best when Republicans and Democrats come together to solve our Nation's greatest challenges.

I grew up in a Republican household. My father, Malcolm McLane, served as the mayor of Concord and on our State's Executive Council, and my mother, Susan McLane, served for 25 years in the House and Senate in the New Hampshire State Legislature, and

she even ran for the seat that I am now retiring from.

I know that they would be proud of my and many of our colleagues' efforts to restore bipartisanship, to reach across the aisle to pursue pragmatic solutions, particularly during times of deep political division.

There will always be new challenges and new opportunities for Congress to address. The work here is never truly finished, but thanks to the support of my colleagues, both Republicans and Democrats, we have made meaningful progress on a number of issues that don't always go viral or generate the most clicks online.

I founded the Bipartisan Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Task Force with my Republican colleague, Frank Guinta, and continued the work with BRIAN FITZPATRICK and DAVID TRONE, to bring Democrats and Republicans together to tackle the addiction and overdose epidemic that has impacted every community across our country.

Thanks in part to the task force's tireless advocacy in providing resources for communities and making smart policy changes, we are finally beginning to see overdose deaths decline throughout the Nation. I am proud that one of my final votes in this Chamber will be for vital opioid response legislation to increase access to treatment included in this year's government funding package.

I also started the Bipartisan Task Force to End Sexual Violence, which has helped shed light on the pervasive culture of sexual violence that has flourished for too long in our schools, our universities, our military, and even here in Congress.

It was in this very Chamber that I first shared my own story of sexual assault publicly and fought to reform how Congress responds to sexual misconduct among Members and toward staff.

Through respectful conversation and honest dialogue, my Bipartisan Ski and Snowboard Caucus helped bridge the divide between our parties on the need to respond to the environmental and economic threats posed by climate change.

As chair of the New Democrat Coalition, my colleagues and I have repeatedly prioritized country and duty over party and politics, providing the votes to prevent a devastating default on our debt and a costly government shutdown not once, not twice, but three times.

Thanks to our focus and commitment to pragmatic solutions to improve the lives of hardworking families in our country, our New Democrat Coalition will be the largest it has ever been in the 119th Congress and will make it more than half of the Democratic Caucus.

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In each of these endeavors, we made progress—incremental at times, but

progress nonetheless. We didn't always agree on how to tackle the challenges, but we listened to each other, debated the ideas on the merits, and focused on the mission of delivering for our constituents.

Sadly, my time in these Halls in recent years has been defined more and more by extreme partisanship. As lawmakers, we must reject the cynicism and the notion that Congress and our institutions are destined for dysfunction and disorder. We must not lose sight of our purpose and why we are here—to fight for our communities, to lead by example, and to tackle the biggest challenges facing our country, not create them.

Now, at the end of my tenure, a little older and hopefully a little wiser, I urge my colleagues and the incoming Members of the 119th Congress to lead with courage in the face of division and recommit to building bridges, not tearing them down.

I thank my husband, Brad, and my sons, Zach and Travis.

I remind my colleagues: Be bold, be brave, but most importantly, be kind.

MY BROTHER, MY INSPIRATION

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor my brother, Mike Pence. Michael has been my Congressman, my Governor, and our Nation's Vice President. While serving my constituents, he has been my inspiration.

Everyone has their own preconceived notions of who my brother is. The real Mike Pence, the man I have known his whole life as his oldest brother, is one of the best, most honorable people I know, and he has always done the right thing.

Michael is devoted, kind, and generous, and he loves his family very much. He is humble and gentle, but he is the bravest and boldest of my siblings. His mettle is iron tested. His character is unimpeachable. These are the qualities that made him the leader that he is.

It has been my honor to follow in his footsteps and represent the Hoosiers of the Sixth District of Indiana.

As I stand here so proud of the man Michael is today, it is a gift to be his brother. He has been a gift to our country, and he has been a gift to our Constitution.

May God bless Michael R. Pence and continue to prosper him and not harm him, give him hope and a future.

DELIVERING ON PROMISES FOR AMERICA

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

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say it has been my greatest honor serving Maryland's Sixth District.