

had a natural talent, but his dedication, positivity, and relentless work ethic set him apart. Although the 100-meter dash is an individual sport, Korban has always been a team player. Before competing, he can typically be seen dancing to R&B or Latin music to settle his nerves and lighten everyone's mood.

Even after the incredible achievement of winning a silver medal in the 2024 Paralympic Games Korban has set his goals even higher, determined to bring home the gold at the 2028 Los Angeles Paralympic Games. Korban has never forgotten his Texas roots—when qualifying for the Paralympic Games, he explained, “you know how we do it here in Texas, we do it big.”

I'd like to recognize Korban for inspiring our North Texas community as he excels on the track and beyond.

NEWSLETTER FROM
CONGRESSMAN CHUCK EDWARDS

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2025

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following newsletter to give an update to my constituents on the 119th Congress agenda, the Equal Representation Act, and disaster recovery.

DEAR FRIEND: With a House speaker elected and a presidential election certified, we look ahead to the inauguration that will pave the way to a new era for the American people and better position us to fix how Washington works.

I was proud to cast my vote for MIKE JOHNSON as Speaker of the House for the 119th Congress, and to concur with the certification of the presidential election.

Speaker JOHNSON has a good working relationship with President Trump to be able to pursue and deliver an America First agenda.

It was essential to swiftly elect a speaker to kick off the 119th Congress so we can get to work for the American people.

Western North Carolinians have struggled over the past four years under high prices, less-safe communities, disastrous open-border policies, and crippling regulations.

As we begin this new Congress, I'm eager to move policies forward that benefit the hardworking families in our mountains, especially as we rebuild from Helene.

ONLY AMERICAN CITIZENS SHOULD BE
REPRESENTED IN CONGRESS

The first bill that I re-introduced in the 119th Congress is the Equal Representation Act, which would prohibit illegal immigrants from influencing Americans' congressional representation.

Citizens across our mountains and nation are demanding that we protect our nation's sovereignty and secure our borders.

This bill addresses one of the many consequences of the Biden administration's open border policies, which allowed millions of illegal immigrants to pour into the U.S., increasing the country's non-citizen population.

Mass illegal immigration has unfairly skewed political presentation in the U.S. House and Electoral College by including illegal immigrants in the total population count that determines how many representatives a state receives, or is apportioned.

This is diluting the voices of U.S. citizens in the political process. The Equal Representation Act will address these problems by

asking a very simple, commonsense question on the U.S. Census, “Are you a citizen of the United States?” so that non-citizens are not counted toward congressional district and Electoral College apportionment.

Americans deserve fair and equal representation in their federal government, something that will not be possible until we eliminate the influence of noncitizens in our electoral process.

\$16 BILLION HEADED TO WNC FOR DISASTER
RECOVERY

Upon returning to Washington after Hurricane Helene, it was my top priority as a member of the House Appropriations Committee to craft a supplemental disaster funding bill to aid in WNC's recovery.

As the sole co-sponsor of the American Relief Act—also known as the disaster supplemental—I fought for and secured nearly \$16 billion to come directly to Western North Carolina for disaster recovery. It's customary that the chairman of the committee be the lead sponsor of a disaster supplemental bill, and the committee only rarely names a co-sponsor for such bills.

As a lifelong resident of Western North Carolina, I'm grateful that House leaders—including Speaker JOHNSON, Majority Leader STEVE SCALISE, and Appropriations Committee Chairman TOM COLE, sought my unique understanding of the challenges WNC residents are facing in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene. I am grateful for their strong support for our mountains, for their leeway in letting me craft this legislation, and for passing this historic disaster supplemental bill.

WELCOMING MITCHELL AND AVERY COUNTY

We are excited to welcome Mitchell and Avery counties to North Carolina's 11th congressional district. The Carolina Cruiser has already made four stops in these counties, and members of my team were glad to meet some new faces and hear what's on the minds of our newest constituents.

It is a privilege and honor to serve each and every one of you, and my team and I are looking forward to getting to know you, whether at Carolina Cruiser mobile office hours or at one-on-one Chat With Chuck meetings.

If you're experiencing issues with FEMA after Hurricane Helene, you can call my office at 223-FIX-FEMA for assistance.

You can also stay informed on NC-11 news and legislative updates by subscribing to my newsletter here.

ANNOUNCING SENIOR CASEWORKER MADELINE
LEHMAN

Congratulations to Madeline Lehman, who has been promoted to senior caseworker in my district office. Madeline has been a part of my team since my first day in office. Her strong work ethic and can-do attitude have allowed her to advance from the position of staff assistant to caseworker, and now to senior caseworker, in little more than two years. She also did this while simultaneously obtaining her master's degree in public administration.

Madeline has diligently worked to take my office's case management to a new level and it's this kind of strong performance that has led my office to have the reputation far and wide as “First in Constituent Services.”

With my warmest regards,

CHUCK EDWARDS,
Member of Congress.

COMMENDING DAVID ZIMMERMAN
ON 27 YEARS OF SERVICE TO
TAZEWELL COUNTY

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2025

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize David Zimmerman for his decades of service to the Central Illinois community. Zimmerman served on the Tazewell County Board for 27 years and was the Chairman of the Board for the last 16 years.

Zimmerman graduated from Illinois State University with a degree in Political Science and began his service to the Tazewell County Board in 1997. Before becoming Chairman, Zimmerman held many responsibilities as a Board Member including Finance, HR, Insurance Review, and Land Use Chair. During his tenure on the Board, Zimmerman positively influenced the lives of his constituents by improving the well-being of Tazewell County.

Outside of his work on the Tazewell County Board, Zimmerman has served the people of Central Illinois through different public service roles. Examples include the Greater Peoria Economic Development Commission Executive Board, United Counties Council of Illinois Vice-President, Tazewell County and Peoria Salvation Army Board Member, and Berean Prison Ministry Board Member, among others. A strong leader within the Central Illinois community, Zimmerman was also recognized in the Peoria Magazine through their “40 Leaders Under 40” award.

David Zimmerman's decades long efforts have left a lasting impact on the Greater Peoria community and the state of Illinois. His commitment to our community is truly inspiring and I wish him the best in all future endeavors.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN
HERO OFFICER AMY LANGBINE
HEATH

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2025

Ms. VAN DUYN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Amy Langbine Heath, who began working in tree care after moving back home to Dallas. She was the first woman in Texas to become a Board-Certified Master Arborist through the International Society of Arboriculture, achieving this in 2008 and acquiring Texas Tree Surgeons two years later.

In the aftermath of storms that left half a million Texans without power and severe property damage, Amy stepped up to help. Traveling across the community to clean up split trees and limbs, she even saved one North Texas couple's home from being destroyed after removing a damaged tree at risk of falling into their bedroom.

Amy is a shining example of neighbor helping neighbor. I'm grateful for her efforts to help our community get back on track after devastating storms.

RECOGNIZING COMMISSIONER BILL
HOLEN

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2025

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Arapahoe County Commissioner Bill Holen on his retirement after more than 50 years of public service.

Commissioner Holen is an Army veteran who served in the Vietnam War, and a former member of the Colorado Air National Guard. He dedicated much of his career to government public service, including working for Senator Gary Hart and Congressman Ed Perlmutter.

Commissioner Holen was elected to the Arapahoe Board of County Commissioners for District 5 in 2012. Over the past 12 years, he has served as the Finance Officer and Chair Pro Tempore. In addition to his service to the County, Commissioner Holen served as the Chair of the Colorado Bipartisan Military Post-Traumatic Stress Task Force, on the Denver Regional Council of Governments Board of Directors, Colorado's Board of Veterans Affairs, NASA's Space Station Industrial Use Taskforce, and the Denver Regional Council of Governments Transportation Advisory Board.

Commissioner Holen has also dedicated much of his time to community service. He was the Goodwill Ambassador to U.S. Air Force 460th Space Wing Space Command Commander's Group, served on the Board of Arapahoe/Douglas Mental Health Network Developmental Pathways, and Rocky Mountain Crisis Partners. He has also participated as a member in the Aurora Chamber of Commerce Defense Council, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion, and the United Veterans Committee of Colorado.

Commissioner Holen is finishing his final term as a Board Member of the Arapahoe County Board of Commissioners, where he has provided sound advice on the use of county resources, strong partnership across the County and State, and stalwart dedication to the Arapahoe County community.

I thank Commissioner Bill Holen for his service to Arapahoe County, the state of Colorado, and our country.

RECOGNIZING NANCY CAZA'S
DECADES OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2025

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend the outstanding work done by Nancy Lynn Caza during her tenure with the Department of Treasury—Internal Revenue Service. After 46 years of tireless service, she retired at the end of 2024. Nancy's unwavering commitment to serving the people of Michigan deserves recognition as she concludes her distinguished career.

Throughout her career, Nancy always fought for the people of Michigan, helping many with the tedious and complex issues regarding their taxes. She has been an ardent advocate for

the greater Detroit metro area and has been compassionate and empathetic in her work with the IRS. A tremendous example of a true public servant, she has always been committed to fairness and protecting the rights of the taxpayer in all circumstances.

Nancy worked within the Taxpayer Advocate Service within the IRS since its inception 20 years ago. Her work within the agency led to more timely case resolutions and relief for American taxpayers. Throughout her career, Nancy has been at the forefront of creating relationships with congressional offices across the state of Michigan, including members in both the House of Representatives and Senate. Her direct advocacy toward elected officials on behalf of the IRS has led to the improvement of the tax administration process for all Americans.

Now as she moves on to the next part of her journey, she hopes to spend more time in beautiful Northern Michigan, where she can continue to be a great mother and grandmother to her lovely family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending the incredible service done by Nancy Lynn Caza over the past 46 years for the American people. Her compassionate and dedication for advocating for the right of taxpayers has truly been remarkable and should be celebrated.

HONORING BARBARA HOLMES

HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2025

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, I want to celebrate the life and work of a Bronx icon, Barbara Holmes. As her daughter put it, "She fought for the rights of her children, her neighbors and their children, her neighborhood and colleagues. No matter the fight she continued to fight a good one." This sentiment captures the light and good she brought into the world.

Barbara always fought for what was right. In the 60's, the Board of Education teachers went on strike. Barbara organized school parents to make sure that not a single child was stopped from getting their education. Later in the 70's, as she attended Bronx Community College, her rights were violated. This led Barbara and her colleagues to stage a weeklong sit-in on campus to ensure their right to attend college was respected.

Barbara touched the lives of countless individuals in her community as the President of the Community Council of Police Service Area 7. In her role, she was dedicated to assisting residents of NYCHA Developments with a wide range of challenges, particularly those related to public safety. As Tenant Association President, Barbara consistently went above and beyond. She organized programs to provide food for families in need, as well as toys and school supplies for children. Barbara accomplished all of this while tirelessly working to support the families and communities she served.

Barbara was all about community and family. She worked for the benefit of others until the day she passed, and the entire community will be forever grateful. Her spirit will live on through the Barbara Holmes Impact Foundation and her entire Bronx family.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN
HERO JACK BLOCKER

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2025

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Jack Blocker, a North Texas native who was inspired to pursue music at 17 years old.

After attending Trinity Christian Academy in Addison, Jack went on to the University of Arkansas and joined the band Rightfield. A self-taught musician, he continued his journey after graduation by moving to Nashville to pursue his talent while also working as a freelance graphic designer.

Jack decided to take a chance and audition for American Idol, performing one of his original songs. As one of the last contestants from the Nashville area, he originally received two "no" votes before he was brought back into the audition room to learn he'd be heading to Hollywood. After making it through nine rounds of eliminations, Jack made it to the final episode, taking home third place for American Idol Season 22.

I'd like to thank Jack for serving as a role model for aspiring musicians in our community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT
OF COLUMBIA PROSECUTOR
HOME RULE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Prosecutor Home Rule Act, which would give D.C. the authority to prosecute all crimes committed under its laws. Congress already allows D.C. to write D.C. criminal laws and allows D.C. to enforce them against some violators. Congress should allow D.C. to enforce D.C. laws against all violators. This bill would effectuate a 2002 advisory referendum, approved by 82 percent of D.C. voters, to create a local prosecutor's office.

Currently, the U.S. Attorney for D.C. has the authority to prosecute most D.C. crimes committed by adults and some by juveniles, while the D.C. Attorney General has the authority to prosecute most D.C. crimes committed by juveniles and some by adults. Giving D.C. the authority to prosecute all D.C. crimes would not only give D.C. residents a say in the enforcement of all their laws, it also would save the federal government tens of millions of dollars a year by reducing the number of assistant U.S. attorneys in the U.S. Attorney's Office for D.C.

In the 117th Congress, the House Committee on Oversight and Reform passed this bill as part of my District of Columbia Home Rule Expansion Act of 2022.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.