

Cleveland Heights School District kicked in to save the lives of students as the bus began to be engulfed in flames.

From the moment the school bus doors open in the early morning to dropping out children off at the bus stop in the afternoon, school bus drivers are vital to ensuring that the most precious among our community have a safe passage to and from school. Mr. Pace is a proud member of the Ohio Association of Public School Employees/American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (OAPSE/AFSCME) Local 4 and The American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO).

Prior to working for the Cleveland Heights School District, he worked with the Bellefaire JCB, mental health facility, which provides 24/7 treatment for youth and adolescents in Northeast, Ohio. Mr. Pace's commitment to public service is a testament to the many hardworking individuals of OH-11.

I thank Mr. Pace for saving the lives of fifteen children and for dedicating his life to serving our community.

THANKING MR. JEFFREY ASKEW

**HON. KAT CAMMACK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2025*

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Florida's Third Congressional District, we thank Mr. Jeffrey Askew for his storied career in Marion County.

A native of Auburn, Alabama, Jeffrey joined the U.S. Navy in July 1977 after completing his high school studies. He completed his basic training in San Diego, California and his first duty station was Naval Air Station Pensacola where he worked as a plane captain for A-4s and T-2s. While there he qualified for the A-4 back seat rider before transferring in 1980 to the USS *Coral Sea* CV-43 which was stationed in Alameda, California. While on the *Coral Sea* he visited the Philippines, Thailand, Korea, Hong Kong, Singapore, and a host of other countries. He says his most rewarding job on the ship was the Primary Fly Control Tower Supervisor.

Jeffrey participated in the Iran Hostage rescue where he was awarded the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. He also participated in Operation Desert Shield and the Liberation and Defense of Kuwait, earning 12 medals in his 22-year tenure, including four Navy Achievement Medals and two Navy Commendation Medals. His duty stations include USS *O'Bannon* (DD-987), USS *Lexington* (CVT-16), USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN-69), and various Shore Commands.

His final duty station was Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Detachment Astor, located in the Ocala National Forest. He served as an operations officer where he conducted training with 50 air squadrons in various air to land operations. Retiring in 1999 as a Navy Chief, Mr. Askew went on to serve as Marion County's Veterans Services Director and the Administrator of the Ocala/Marion Veterans Memorial Park. He and his staff were awarded the "Service Office of the Year" in 2009 and 2012, making Marion County the only county to have received the award twice from the Department of Florida and the VFW.

I congratulate him on an incredible career and thank him for his service. We wish him the best as he moves on from Marion County and continues to make a tremendous difference in the lives of our heroes.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BILL SMITH

**HON. MIKE EZELL**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2025*

Mr. EZELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bill Smith, a lifelong resident of Pascagoula, Mississippi. Bill was more than a neighbor—he was a light in our community. As a child, I grew up alongside Bill and his sister, Kim, forming a bond that has lasted a lifetime.

Bill gave his heart to Jesus at a young age and lived his faith every day. He witnessed many miracles, but he himself was one.

A proud graduate of the Jackson County Exceptional School, Class of 1982, Bill was a dedicated worker, spending years at Wendy's, Checkers, and Jerry Lee's Deli. He was a cherished member of the Sanctuary of Pascagoula and a shining example that Jesus works through all of us, no matter our abilities. Bill's legacy of faith, kindness, and unwavering belief in God's power will not be forgotten. May we all strive to share his heart for prayer and compassion.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

**HON. FRANK J. MRVAN**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2025*

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and sincere admiration that I rise to celebrate Women's History Month and its 2025 theme—Moving Forward Together! Women Educating & Inspiring Generations. This year's theme celebrates the collective strength and influence of women who have dedicated their lives to education, mentorship, and leadership. Through their efforts, they have served as an inspiration for all generations—both past and present.

As we celebrate the women who have devoted their lives to education, mentorship, and leadership, I would like to take this time to honor a lifelong educator in Northwest Indiana, Ms. Janice Jordan. Ms. Jordan was born and raised in Hurtsboro, Alabama and earned a bachelor's degree in early childhood education from Auburn University. In 1982, she moved to Gary, Indiana to continue her education at Indiana University Northwest, where she earned a master's degree in education. Ms. Jordan went on to serve the School City of East Chicago as a teacher and administrator for 33 years, where she shaped the lives of countless students. Throughout her career, Ms. Jordan demonstrated a deep commitment to her students by creating enriching learning experiences and ensuring they had the support to grow and thrive.

Although she retired in 2016, Ms. Jordan's passion for teaching led her to return to the

classroom. Since 2023, Ms. Jordan has taught preschoolers at St. Mark Early Learning Academy, a Head Start facility in Gary. Ms. Jordan loves engaging her students through the curriculum, which promotes language development, literacy, and individualized instruction tailored to each child's needs. Her favorite part of the day is when children explore different learning centers to create, build, use their imagination, and share new discoveries with their peers. Her philosophy in life is, "Set the atmosphere, engage the community, and get to work!"

Outside of the classroom, Ms. Jordan is also an active member of Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church in Gary, a sister of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and a volunteer with the Gary Literacy Coalition, Inc., demonstrating her unwavering commitment to education and community service. For her dedicated contributions to students, families, and communities throughout Northwest Indiana, Ms. Jordan is worthy of the highest praise.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating Women's History Month and recognizing the lifelong service of Ms. Janice Jordan and so many other extraordinary women who have dedicated their lives to education, mentorship, and leadership.

HONORING ELEANOR "ELDIE" ACHESON

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2025*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Eleanor "Eldie" Acheson, who retired from Amtrak on February 1, 2025, after 18 years of service to our country's passenger rail system.

Coming from a long line of public servants, Eldie's family instilled in her the value of public service and an appreciation for her country from a young age. Eldie's father, David Campion Acheson, worked as an attorney for the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission and later as a U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia. Her grandfather, Dean Acheson, served as Secretary of State under President Truman. Her great-grandfather, Louis Stanley, was a railroad attorney. Eldie's family history also includes painters, such as her grandmother, Alice Acheson, and great-great-grandfather, John Mix Stanley, the renowned painter of Native American life in the West.

The principles of service and advocacy are values that Eldie has carried with her over the years. Throughout her career, Eldie strove to create greater opportunities for women and other underrepresented groups, dating back to her time as an undergraduate student at Wellesley College. Prior to 1969, Wellesley College never had a student commencement speaker. Although Wellesley's commencements included remarks by college administrators and special guests, students were not granted the opportunity to address their peers during graduation. Eldie spearheaded efforts to have a student commencement speaker. Despite facing opposition from administrators, Eldie's efforts ultimately proved successful, and her class was the first in Wellesley College's history to have a student commencement speaker. That speaker was then student-

body president and future Secretary of State, U.S. Senator, and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Eldie's remarkable career was one of many firsts as she continuously broke down barriers. After graduating from George Washington University Law School, Eldie became the first female Associate, and later Partner, at the Boston-based law firm Ropes & Gray and served as the founding Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the nation's first LGBTQ civil rights advocacy organization. In 1993, President Clinton appointed Eldie as Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Policy Development at the U.S. Department of Justice, where she helped expand the number of female federal judges by over 80 percent. For her work, Eldie was awarded the American Bar Association's Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award.

In 2007, Eldie began her tenure as General Counsel at Amtrak, where she sought to improve passenger experience, rail accessibility, and workplace inclusiveness. She played a key role in the creation of the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act (PRIIA) of 2008, which directed Amtrak and the Federal Railroad Administration to develop minimum standards for passenger train on-time performance. Eldie also championed a company-wide effort to ensure Amtrak stations complied with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Her work led to new training for front-line employees and clear guidelines for Amtrak's ADA Stations Program. Additionally, Eldie sat on Amtrak's Executive Diversity Council, setting the strategic direction for diversity, inclusion, and belonging initiatives, and served as an executive sponsor of Express Pride, Amtrak's Employee Resource Group for LGBTQ+ employees and allies.

On February 1, 2025, Eldie retired from Amtrak, leaving behind a legacy and career highlighted by her commitment to expanding opportunities for underrepresented groups, improving passenger rail, and continuing her family's legacy of public service. I wish Eldie many years of well-deserved happiness in retirement to spend hiking, playing tennis, and sailing on Cape Cod with her family and her wife, Emily.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Eldie Acherson, and I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Eldie's career and thanking her for her years of service.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HEROES LUKE AND JEN HUCH

**HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2025*

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr Speaker, I rise to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Heroes, Luke and Jen Huch of Euless. They faced every parent's nightmare when their son, Lion, was diagnosed with leukemia at just seven months old. Lion was given a 47 percent chance of survival and began an intensive chemotherapy journey.

Determined to defy the odds, the Huch family lived in the hospital for the first six months of their fight. Music became a key part of Lion's survival, giving the family a boost in

faith and spirits. With instruments like drums, a keyboard, and a guitar, Luke and Jen would write songs and sing with Lion to keep his spirits high. This led to Lion's passion for music, and inspired the Huches to create Free Music, a local nonprofit that provides instruments to children who are battling or recovering from life-threatening illness.

Rooted in their belief that music can provide hope, inspire kids to keep fighting, and bring joy to families, through Free Music, the Huches are providing sick children with a creative outlet and something to focus on other than their medical journey. In their words, these children have incredible perspectives on life, their stories need to be told, and their voices need to be heard through the gift of music.

North Texas is lucky to have Luke and Jen who turned Lion's devastating diagnosis into an opportunity to offer hope and strength to other children and families. I'd like to thank the Huch family for their commitment to spreading joy and hope through music.

RECOGNIZING PI DAY

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2025*

Mr. FOSTER. Mr Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate March 14, 3.14, or Pi day. Pi is a Greek letter, and in mathematics it is a symbol for the number you always get when you divide a circle's circumference by its diameter. Many people approximate pi as 3.14 or 3.14159.

But the number is irrational and will continue infinitely without repeating. If you were to try to write down the exact number for pi, there would be infinite numbers to the right of the decimal point and there would be no pattern. This means we're down to a mere infinity digits yet to be found. To date, it has been calculated to over 202 trillion digits. But there is still new math to be discovered. And mathematics is critical to everything we do. It's the language of science, engineering, and technology. So, today, don't be rational. Be irrational and celebrate Pi Day.

This celebration is not only about the number itself, but also about what this day can represent for our country. One of the most important investments that we can make is getting students interested in STEM subjects—science, technology, engineering, and math. Since World War II, over half of U.S. economic growth has been driven by science and technology, and through the end of the decade, the growth rate of STEM employment is expected to be more than double the growth rate of non-STEM employment.

However, we do not have enough students graduating from high school and college with necessary skills in the STEM fields to fill these jobs. As times change and we move into a more STEM-based economy, it is important that our students get the education and training they will need to succeed.

This is why recognizing March 14 as Pi Day is important. It shows the fun and exciting side to math and other STEM subjects, and will hopefully lead to a crop of students developing an interest in becoming the next generation's mathematicians, engineers, and physicists.

I am planning to reintroduce a resolution to support designating March 14 as National Pi Day. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this day and supporting our future scientists for generations to come.

HONORING MR. AND MRS. DILLARD'S COMMUNITY SERVICE

**HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2025*

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Mr. Jimmy and Mrs. Dottie Dillard for their remarkable dedication to serving their community and exceptional volunteer efforts at the Mary Washington Hospital in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Just recently, The Dillard's were nominated for the Winter 2025 Serve Virginia Honor Roll by the 2024 Governor's Volunteerism & Community Service Awards. The Bi-annual Serve Virginia Honor Roll recognizes the valuable contributions of volunteers and organizations across the Commonwealth.

Twenty-seven years ago, after retiring from their successful careers—Mr. Jimmy from managing the Dillard Alarm Security company and Mrs. Dottie as the administrative representative of the company—the couple made the decision to give back by volunteering at their local hospital. Since then, they have accumulated over 13,000 hours of service to the hospital, where their contributions have touched nearly every staff member and patient.

From distributing newspapers, delivering flowers to patient rooms, and pushing patients in wheelchairs, to working in the Patient Access department. The Dillard's have consistently gone above and beyond in their roles. Their willingness to serve and their commitment to making a difference is a testament to their selflessness and devotion to others.

Their peers describe them as hardworking and reliable, never letting snow, extreme heat, or cold weather deter them from their volunteer shifts.

I am truly inspired by their passion for serving others and their commitment to their community. Mr. Speaker, I am honored in recognizing Mr. Jimmy and Mrs. Dottie for their unwavering service and impact at the Mary Washington Hospital.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE RELATING TO "GROSS PROCEEDS REPORTING BY BROKERS THAT REGULARLY PROVIDE SERVICES EFFECTUATING DIGITAL ASSET SALES"

SPEECH OF

**HON. LATEEFAH SIMON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 11, 2025*

Ms. SIMON. Mr Speaker, I will vote for H.J. Res. 25, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title