

the contributions and impact of women builders, professionals, and tradeswomen are acknowledged across every facet of the construction industry.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HILLARY J. SCHOLTEN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on March 24, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 72, and YEA on Roll Call No. 73.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF DANIEL ROVERO

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of an eastern Connecticut legend and public servant, my friend, Danny Rovero. Danny sadly passed away on March 5, 2025, at age 87.

Danny's life was a testament to unwavering dedication, leaving behind a legacy that will resonate for generations. His journey, marked by service, entrepreneurship, and a deep-seated love for his community, stands as a beacon for all who aspire to make a lasting difference.

Danny Rovero was more than a public figure; he was an integral part of the fabric Connecticut's northeast corner, the towns of Killingly, Putnam, and Thompson. His roles as Vice Chair of the Killingly Board of Education, State Representative for the 51st District, and Mayor of Putnam were not mere titles, but expressions of his profound commitment to the people he served. To understand Danny Rovero, one must look beyond his accomplishments and see the heart of a man who genuinely cared.

Danny served as Mayor of Putnam from 1991 to 2005, the longest tenure in the town's rich history. Under his leadership, Putnam experienced a period of significant progress and stability. He understood the unique challenges faced by small towns and worked tirelessly to ensure their voices were heard—an approach to public service he took with him to the Connecticut General Assembly on behalf of the constituents he represented in the 51st District of the Connecticut State House of Representatives, where he served from 2011 to 2019. As a State Representative he was a voice for the overlooked and a champion for the underserved. His deep understanding of the region's needs, coupled with his pragmatic approach, earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Beyond his political achievements, Danny Rovero was a successful businessman and entrepreneur. For 35 years, Rovero's Amoco gasoline station stood as a testament to his entrepreneurial spirit and dedication to providing essential services to his community. His business acumen, honed through years of hard work and perseverance, provided him with a unique perspective that he brought to his public service. He understood the chal-

lenges faced by small businesses and worked to create an environment where they could thrive.

His commitment to service extended beyond his professional and political life. As a Korean War Army veteran, he served his country with honor and distinction, spending 16 months in Korea. This experience shaped his character, instilling in him a sense of duty and a deep appreciation for the sacrifices made by those who serve.

His dedication to education was a hallmark of his later years. He understood that education is the cornerstone of a strong community and worked tirelessly to ensure that every child had access to quality education. His commitment to the Killingly Board of Education exemplified this dedication. His ability to listen, to understand, and to advocate for the needs of students and teachers alike made him an invaluable member of the board, where his presence was a source of strength and stability, and his contributions will be felt for years to come.

The outpouring of tributes and remembrance following his passing reflects the deep affection and respect that the community had for Danny. Friends, colleagues, and community members shared stories of his kindness, generosity, and unwavering dedication. His ability to connect with people from all walks of life was a testament to his genuine character. On a personal note, I was privileged to work with him during my time representing his beloved corner of Connecticut. He was a model to me of a public servant who listened to the people he represented and was always honest and ethical in his actions. He had a great sense of humor and never took himself too seriously. As the Irish say, "He never put on airs".

Danny Rovero was a man of integrity and compassion. He lived his life with purpose, always striving to make a positive impact on the world around him. His legacy is not just in the buildings he helped to build or the laws he helped to pass, but in the lives he touched and the hearts he inspired. He was a mentor, a friend, and a role model. He showed us the importance of service, the power of community, and the enduring value of integrity. His life was a testament to the belief that one person can make a difference.

In remembering Danny, we also remember the woman behind the public figure. He was a loving husband to his wife of 66 years, Judith, a devoted father to Ricardo, William, Jane, and Jill; a cherished grandfather to six, and a proud great-grandfather to two. His family was the center of his world, and his love for them was unwavering.

Today, I remember Danny as a dedicated public servant, an entrepreneur, a veteran who served his country with honor, and a family man who loved unconditionally. His legacy is etched in the hearts of the people he served and served with. His impact will be felt for generations to come. His life was a testament to the power of service, the importance of community, and the enduring value of integrity.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Daniel Rovero as the quiet corner of eastern Connecticut mourns his passing.

CONGRATULATING NANCY GERMANSKY ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my staff member, Nancy Germansky, on her recent retirement from my office.

Nancy grew up in New York City and moved to South Florida with her late husband, Stuart, where they raised their son, Henry. Nancy started serving the constituents of South Florida in 2007 as a Constituent Services Representative for Representative Ron Klein, continued her service with Representative Ted Deutch, and joined my office as a Constituent Liaison when I was elected to Congress in 2013. Covering a wide range of issues, Nancy assisted thousands of constituents over her career. She helped Veterans get the benefits they earned, ensured seniors had access to their Medicare, assisted with IRS issues, and so much more. Her calming presence and dedication to helping others made her an amazing advocate for our office, touching the lives of so many.

While it is sad to have Nancy leave our office, I wish her a very well-deserved retirement, full of travel, relaxation, and many more years of enjoyment ahead.

CELEBRATING POLISH-HUNGARIAN FRIENDSHIP DAY

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Polish-Hungarian Friendship Day, observed on March 23rd, an important occasion that honors the deep rooted historical ties and enduring friendship between Poland and Hungary. This day is a tribute to the centuries-long relationship between the two nations, built on mutual support, shared values, and a commitment to independence.

The bond between Poland and Hungary dates back over a thousand years, with moments of solidarity that have shaped the history of both countries. From the 13th century, when Polish and Hungarian royalty intermarried, to the shared struggles against foreign domination and the fight for independence, the two nations have stood together in times of adversity.

In the 20th century, the friendship between Poland and Hungary was again tested during both World Wars, where the peoples of both countries supported each other in the face of oppression. One of the most pivotal moments came during the 1956 Hungarian Uprising against Soviet control, which was met with strong support from the Polish people, solidifying the bond between the nations.

Polish-Hungarian Friendship Day was officially established in 2007 as a way to celebrate and strengthen these historical and cultural ties. On this day, both countries come together to celebrate their shared heritage through cultural performances, exhibitions, diplomatic meetings, and joint commemorations.

It is a day of mutual respect and admiration, where citizens of both Poland and Hungary honor the legacy of their friendship and the importance of international unity.

As we celebrate Polish-Hungarian Friendship Day, let us reflect on the values that have brought our nations together: freedom, solidarity, and a commitment to each other's well being. May this day continue to inspire future generations to uphold the bonds of friendship and work together for a stronger, more connected world.

CELEBRATING THE 145TH ANNIVERSARY OF TRINITY AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join Trinity African Methodist Episcopal Church, the historic Church in Long Branch, New Jersey as it celebrates its 145th Anniversary this year. Since its incorporation in 1880, Trinity AME has provided a center for spiritual and community development to Monmouth County residents.

In 1995, the history of Trinity AME became nationally recognized when the church was added to the National Register of Historic Places. In 2015, Reverend Dr. Devereaux, Esq. made history as the first female pastor of Trinity AME. This congregation contributes generous efforts of outreach for our local community. Every week they show up for those in need with their Weekly Food Distribution program. Annually, they distribute turkeys to over 100 families and conduct a toy drive, which reached over 1,500 children last year. In addition to these efforts, existing programs to support seniors and women in leadership reflect their commitment to empower others at every stage in life. They have truly lifted and liberated their community.

Under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Devereaux, the church has undergone several community and refurbishment projects. Thanks to their vibrant ministry, congregants have access to a new fellowship hall, an updated Handicap ramp, membership to the youth choir, and a chance to learn from the Annual Remarkable Women in Community Service Awards Program recipients. Rev. Dr. Devereaux has also made efforts to collaborate with the local mayor, myself, and other faith leaders with initiatives such as Police & Youth Unity and the creation of the Long Branch Think Tank, committed to collaborating on issues at a local level. I am pleased to join the Trinity AME Family in coining together to mark the many glorious years of faith.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in celebrating Trinity African Methodist Episcopal Church as its members and supporters celebrate its 145th Anniversary. Trinity AME is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

RECOGNIZING THE 55TH WING 85TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DON BACON

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 85th birthday of the 55th Wing, the "Fightin' Fifty-Fifth", headquartered at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska. This Air Force organization is home to the thousands of men and women who dedicate their lives to providing global vigilance as a vital part of America's national defense. I am proud to count myself as a member of the Fightin' Fifty-Fifth, having served four tours of duty with the Wing and had the honor of serving as its commander from 2011 to 2012.

The 55th Wing traces its lineage back to the 55th Pursuit Group which was first constituted in November of 1940 and later activated at Hamilton Field, California, in January of 1941. The 55th deployed to England in 1943 flying P-38 Lightning and P-51 Mustang fighter aircraft as part of the "Mighty" Eighth Air Force. While providing escort for allied bombing missions during World War II, the 55th Pursuit Group earned two Distinguished Unit Citations, produced 16 fighter aces, and was credited with 90 air-to-air victories.

After World War II, in 1946, the group was deactivated, only to be reactivated less than a year later as the 55th Reconnaissance Group under the Strategic Air Command. By 1950, it would be designated the 55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, and in 1952 it was assigned to Forbes Air Force Base in Topeka, Kansas, operating the RB-50 Stratofortress and later the RB-47E Stratojet. During the Cold War, Airmen of the 55th Wing routinely conducted high-risk and politically sensitive reconnaissance missions along the frontiers of the Soviet Union, with frequent and sometimes deadly interactions with Soviet fighter aircraft.

In August of 1966, the 55th Wing moved to Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska, where it proudly resides to this day. During the height of the Cold War, the Wing took on nuclear command and control and 24/7 airborne alert missions flying the EC-135 Looking Glass and later, the E-4 National Emergency Airborne Command Post.

The Wing pivoted again after the fall of the Soviet Union, and in 1990 deployed its RC-135 Rivet Joint aircraft to the Middle East in support of Operation Desert Shield. Within a year, they would pivot to Operation Desert Storm, followed by Operation Southern Watch and later the Global War on Terror, providing real-time information for tactical forces, theater commanders, and national decision makers in what is believed to be the longest continuous deployment for a unit in U.S. military history.

Today, the 55th Wing is the largest wing in Air Combat Command, comprised of 6 groups, 31 squadrons, and 3 detachments located worldwide. It operates 48 aircraft, including multiple variants of the RC-135 and the EC-130H and EA-37B Compass Call electronic attack aircraft. The sun truly never sets on the Fightin' Fifty-Fifth.

Over the last 85 years of war and peace, missions and aircraft have come and gone, and operating locations have changed as the needs of the nation have evolved. Throughout it all, the men and women of the 55th Wing

have never wavered in their mission to fly, fight, and win. It is my great honor to recognize their achievements and salute their history today. Once again I say, happy birthday to the men and women of the Fightin' Fifty-Fifth.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I recently gave birth and am unable to travel to D.C. to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 72, and YEA on Roll Call No. 73.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on the Legislative Day of March 24, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 72, and YEA on Roll Call No. 73.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, due to airline schedules, my flight was delayed. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 72, and YEA on Roll Call No. 73.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF CONGRESSWOMAN NITA LOWEY

HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to our dear colleague, Nita Lowey, who served as the U.S. Representative for New York's 17th Congressional District from 1989 to 2021. Congresswoman Lowey made a profound and lasting impact on this body, and her dedication to public service will be remembered for years to come. Today, we reflect on her tireless work, her trailblazing leadership, and the legacy she leaves behind.

Representative Lowey's career was defined by her unwavering commitment to advancing key issues such as healthcare, women's rights, support for Israel, combating anti-Semitism, and the well-being of her constituents. In 2019, the Congresswoman made history as the first woman to serve as the chair of the House Appropriations Committee. Through this influential position, she played a critical role in shaping and directing the federal budget, ensuring that vital programs in healthcare,