

in school events, from setting up classrooms to managing concession stands and coordinating prom preparations. Her tireless efforts reflect a deep-rooted dedication to bettering her community and serving others.

Kacee is also an accomplished athlete, excelling in volleyball, basketball, softball, and track. She has earned multiple accolades, including All-Conference First Team, All-Region Outside Hitter, and All-State Honorable Mention. Her leadership extends beyond the court—serving as President of Student Council, Treasurer of the National Honor Society, and a dedicated member of various extracurricular organizations, always striving to lead with compassion and integrity.

What sets Kacee apart is her unwavering commitment to lifting others up. Whether stepping outside her comfort zone to sing the National Anthem at sporting events or leading by example in her community, she embodies the spirit of service and resilience.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Kacee Gray for her remarkable achievements and dedication to service. She represents the very best of Cass City's next generation of leaders, and I have no doubt that she will continue to make a meaningful impact wherever she goes.

RECOGNIZING REAGAN
CHESSMORE

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2025

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reagan Chessmore for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Reagan has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Reagan, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Reagan's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Reagan Chessmore on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

REMEMBERING MERIDIAN NEWS
ANCHOR JOHN JOHNSON

HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2025

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember one of Meridian's finest in the world of local news: John Johnson. John Johnson was one of the first African-American news directors in Mississippi and the Southeast. He served as the anchorman and news director at WTOK-TV for many years. His dedication to his community showed in how he built up the next generation of local news anchors across his 32 years of service. His impact on many careers can be seen in the life of the community and the

growth of WTOK. John Johnson will be remembered throughout Meridian and Mississippi for his dedication to leadership and service to his community.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TEMPE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2025

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 150th Anniversary of the Tempe Elementary School District.

Founded in 1874, Tempe Elementary School District has provided decades of community-inspired education to families in Tempe, Phoenix, Guadalupe, and beyond. The students who start their educational journey in this school district are some of Arizona's highest achievers, continuously building upon on the foundational knowledge, skills, and character traits instilled in them during their most formational years. Throughout the history of this district, administrators and educators have worked together with a simple guiding mission: provide the best education possible for their students. Around Arizona, this district is known not only for its academic excellence but also for the collaborative and passionate culture they have fostered for their staff, students, parents, and the greater community.

Today, the Tempe Elementary Schools are proud to serve a diverse student population of 10,000 who speak over 70 languages, and more than 2,000 of these students choose Tempe from outside the district. The Tempe Elementary School District has trademarked themselves as trailblazers in educational innovation, offering STEM-focused curricula, bilingual and dual-language immersion programs, arts integration, and robust special education services. They have also built meaningful partnerships with the City of Tempe, local businesses, and nonprofit organizations—allowing students to have real-world experiences that spark community-oriented paradigms early on in life.

As we celebrate this historic occasion, I would like to recognize the teachers, administrators, staff, students, families, and alumni who have contributed to the district's legacy. Their passion and dedication have inspired a love of learning and introduced students to a world bigger than their own—inside and outside of the classroom.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating 150 years of educating, nurturing, and inspiring our future generations. I look forward to seeing Tempe Elementary School District continue to thrive and have its students become significant contributors to our community and the world.

RECOGNIZING LUKE SETELIN

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2025

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Luke Setelin for earning the Ar-

vada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Luke has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Luke, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Luke's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada West High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Luke Setelin on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF TONY
SLOAN

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2025

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Tony Sloan, a founding father of tourism and excellent marina operations on Lake Cumberland in southern Kentucky, and on Dale Hollow Lake in Tennessee.

Tony was baptized into lake life at an early age, working as a teenager in 1952 at his father's dock, Grider Hill, one of the first docks on the newly formed Lake Cumberland. After 60 years in the marina business, the Sloan family sold Grider Hill Dock in 2007, however, Tony's passion for Lake Cumberland was far from gone. While the sun set on his family-owned marina, a new dream was soon born to bring a historic plan to life for a new marina at Rowena.

Tony came to me with a vision—to bring world-class recreational facilities to Lake Cumberland. After a decade of strategic planning and investments, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded a lease site for Tony Sloan and his business partner, Tom Allen, to build a new commercial marina on Lake Cumberland, the first in over 60 years. When Marina at Rowena opened in 2017, Tony revived the storied life of Rowena, a once-bustling community located along the banks of the Cumberland River. In the early 1900's, the Steamboat Rowena transported goods and people from Nashville, Tennessee to Burnside, Kentucky, making routine stops at Rowena Landing. It is here that the Army Corps reserved a site for future recreational development in their master plan for Lake Cumberland in 1949. Thanks to Tony's vision for that site, the Marina at Rowena is the premiere modern-day landing, bringing the same hustle and bustle to the area that was seen a century before. Today, you can read the stories of Rowena and a riverside homeowner's daughter named Ena, who rowed people across the river in the 1800's, inspiring the community's name. Tony was adamant about preserving Rowena's story and bringing it back to life through photographs and a timeline, now displayed along the walls of the new marina.

You could not find anyone more passionate about lake life than Tony Sloan. He enjoyed inviting families and friends to the dock for a good fish fry and ice cream, while watching folks water ski and jump waves with tubes, cruisers and pontoons. Tony was proud to

host champion speedboats to race across our iconic waterway, showcasing the lake's natural beauty for all, far and wide. In fact, he loved life on the lake so much that he co-owned several other marinas, including Conley Bottom Resort in Wayne County for many years, and Sunset Marina and Resort on Dale Hollow Lake in Tennessee, which he took immense pride in. At every marina location, he raised the bar for exceptional management and operations, most recently earning the Army Corps' Clean Marina Award in 2022 at Rowena. In my humble opinion, one would be hard-pressed to find a better steward of Lake Cumberland than Tony Sloan—a friend to all.

While the lake was Tony's lifeblood, it paled in comparison to his adoration of his wife, Lola (Dyer) "Bettye" Sloan, with whom he celebrated more than 60 years of marriage. To know Tony Sloan was to love him. He was one of my closest friends and trusted advisors, a loyal supporter, and one of the best storytellers of any fisherman I have ever met. My wife Cynthia and I share our heartfelt condolences with the entire Sloan family, Tony's longtime business partner Tom Allen, and his countless lakeside friends.

COMMENDING MAYOR GARY MANIER FOR 24 YEARS OF SERVICE TO CENTRAL ILLINOIS

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2025

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor and congratulate Gary Manier for his 24 years of service as the Mayor of Washington, Illinois.

Mayor Manier is a proud Washington native and graduated from Washington Community High School in 1972. Gary attended Illinois Central College and, upon graduation, started what would eventually become a 42-year career at Caterpillar, Inc. until his retirement in 2015.

Before becoming Mayor of Washington, his career of public service began on the Washington Community High School Board, where he served as both Vice President and President. In April of 2001, Manier was first elected as Mayor of Washington in a competitive election with four other candidates.

Throughout his decades long tenure as Mayor, Gary accomplished many projects on behalf of the city of Washington. These include, but are not limited to, the opening of the Five Points Community Center, a new Washington City Hall and police station, implementation of incentives to attract business investments in Washington, improvement of local streets and major roads, and an upgrade of the city's sewer system to accommodate the growth of the community.

One of the most pivotal times of Mayor Manier's tenure came after the historic and devastating EF-4 tornado on November 17, 2013. Tragically, the city of Washington suffered loss of life, approximately \$1 billion in property damage to more than 1,100 homes, and the priceless loss of cherished personal belongings. I know many in Washington hold Mayor Manier in high esteem for his strong, critical leadership during that extremely challenging time for the community.

Mayor Manier has earned numerous accolades including the President's Servant Leader Award from Eureka College, being named Washingtonian of the Year in 2014, and being elected twice as the Second Vice President of the Illinois Municipal League.

Undoubtedly, Mayor Manier's leadership will leave a lasting impact on the city of Washington and Central Illinois. It is my pleasure to congratulate him on his retirement and wish him, his wife Lada, daughter Brooke, son Chase, and their seven grandchildren the best in the future.

RECOGNIZING JAYDEN DEGROOT

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2025

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jayden DeGroot for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Jayden has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Jayden, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Jayden's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada West High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Jayden DeGroot on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

CELEBRATING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN HUNGARIAN FOUNDATION

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2025

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the American Hungarian Foundation (AHF) in New Brunswick, New Jersey as it celebrates its 70th Anniversary this year. Since its incorporation in 1955, AHF has provided a cultural bridge between Hungary and the Hungarian American community through history, arts, and tradition.

In 1989, AHF established the Hungarian Heritage Center. The Center hosts a rich curation of historical archives which fosters a space for meaningful lectures, cultural events, and workshops for all to enjoy. Over the past few decades, AHF has amassed one of the most significant collections of Hungarian American artifacts and records in North America. Each artifact is a catalyst for cultural discovery, and often a chance to highlight lesser-known Hungarian artists. For those with an affinity for art and culture like me, frequenting the heritage center is truly an incredible experience.

Since its founding, the foundation's museum has welcomed over 80,000 visitors. There have been more than ninety different exhibition areas ranging from 'Budapest in the 1900s' with a focus on looking into the past to '40 years of the Hungarian Festival' to com-

memorate culture and community. With these resources, local schools, organizations, and residents can develop a deeper understanding to the folk immigrant experience. After 70 years, the foundation has stayed true to their mission: to preserve Hungarian American stories for future generations through collection, conservation, and celebration. By working to digitize their archive, AHF guarantees the long-term preservation of American Hungarian historical records for generations to come. Here, people can honor their roots and learn the special story of American Hungarians. I commend AHF for serving as a research hub for scholars, universities, and local organizations, and their unwavering dedication to this meaningful cause. These efforts for historic preservation are admirable, as such stewardship has really made our community a better place.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in celebrating the American Hungarian Foundation as its supporters gather to celebrate its 70th Anniversary. They are truly deserving of this body's recognition.

RECOGNIZING JASMINE BAKER

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2025

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jasmine Baker, winner of a 2024 James Madison Fellowship from the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation. This fellowship is awarded to educators who demonstrate an outstanding commitment to civic responsibility and education in the areas of American history, American government, or civics.

Mrs. Baker began her service in the U.S. Air Force, conducting signals analysis in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Upon leaving the military, Mrs. Baker continued to serve her community through education. She went to school using the GI Bill, and became a social studies teacher with an emphasis on supporting education in urban communities. As an eighth-grade teacher at Mrachek Middle School in Aurora, Colorado, she incorporates intensive discussion and diverse cultural narratives to promote critical thinking.

A participant in the national We the People research project and a "Push-In" facilitator, Mrs. Baker works to make education more accessible. As a facilitator, she focuses on addressing the challenges Black youth face in school and on creating more equitable spaces for young women through professional development programs and student groups.

As Aurora Public Schools' co-facilitator for social studies programs, she coordinates with all district middle school teachers to strengthen education our Aurora youth receive and to help mentor new educators. And as a coach of the Step Team, she drives her athletes to build leadership skills, confidence, community, and to pass down cultural and historical knowledge.

As Colorado's 2024 James Madison Fellow, Mrs. Baker will continue her own education and complete a master's degree at the University of Colorado Denver. She hopes to use this opportunity to facilitate even greater educational advancement for her students and to