

not an exaggeration to say that our democracy depends on people like Mike Cole—working behind the scenes to get the story right, to ask hard questions, and to speak truth to power.

So, on behalf of the people of the Second Congressional District of Massachusetts and the United States Congress—I thank Mike for his dedication, his professionalism, his integrity, and his decades of service to the people of New England. We're all better off because of his work to shine the light of truth on the stories that matter—and to hold accountable those we entrust to lead our communities, our commonwealth, and our country.

**CELEBRATING CANDACE JOHNSON
AS A DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN
PRESENTED BY THE BOY
SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 21, 2025

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate Dr. Candace Johnson, President and CEO of Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, for being recognized by the Boy Scouts of America with their prestigious Distinguished Citizen Award. This recognition is a reflection of her exemplary leadership and unwavering commitment to the values of citizenship, community service, and integrity—values that are central to the Boy Scouts of America and that Dr. Johnson embodies every day.

As the leader of Roswell Park, Dr. Johnson has dedicated her career to advancing cancer care, promoting research, and improving the lives of countless individuals. Under her leadership, Roswell Park has become a world-renowned institution, offering state-of-the-art cancer treatment and conducting groundbreaking research that continues to transform the landscape of cancer care. Her ability to lead with compassion, vision, and determination has inspired a culture of excellence within her organization, one that values both scientific progress and the human dignity of every patient.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Dr. Johnson has been an advocate for the Western New York community, fostering partnerships and working tirelessly to improve healthcare access and equity. She exemplifies the Scouting values by being a leader who not only makes a profound impact in her field but also empowers those around her to serve others and contribute to the common good. Through her work, Dr. Johnson has shown that true leadership means uplifting others, creating opportunities for positive change, and making a lasting difference in the lives of those in need.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Candace Johnson's recognition as the Boy Scouts of America's Distinguished Citizen is a well-deserved tribute to her outstanding contributions to both the Western New York community and the world. Her leadership continues to inspire us all to live by the values of citizenship, community service, and integrity, and to make a meaningful impact wherever we can. Her example serves as a beacon of what it means to be a distinguished citizen and a leader who embodies the very best of what we can achieve

for the greater good and we are all the better for it.

**REMEMBERING FIREFIGHTER
ANTHONY GANZLER**

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 21, 2025

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleague Congressman RO KHANNA to recognize Fremont Firefighter Anthony Ganzler, on the occasion of his passing on March 17, 2025, at the age of 42.

Anthony joined the Fremont Fire Department in 2019, serving on the Department's Special Operations Task Force. Prior to joining the Fremont Fire Department, Anthony worked at the El Dorado County Fire Protection District as a Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technician from 2015 to 2019.

Predating his time as a firefighter, Anthony served in the United States Army's 173rd Airborne Division for more than eight years. Throughout his service he was stationed in Hawaii, Alaska, and a number of other locations throughout the country.

Anthony was one of many firefighters in the department who raised awareness about men's health issues during the month of November each year. His enthusiastic support for the campaign titled "Movember" is apparent in his most recent fire department photo, which now memorializes his notorious sense of humor.

Anthony was known as a lion of a man with a big heart and warm personality. He will always be remembered as a kind and selfless individual who dedicated his life to serving others.

Our communities will miss his presence deeply. He had a deep devotion to public service and his passing is an immeasurable loss for everyone around him, including his colleagues at the Fremont Fire Department.

We send our deepest condolences to Anthony's wife, Erin, and his two daughters, Savannah and Abigail, as well as his other surviving family, friends, and fellow firefighters who were lucky to have Anthony in their lives.

**CELEBRATING DESTINI HOUSTON
AS THE KINDEST KID IN AMERICA**

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 21, 2025

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate an extraordinary young leader from Western New York—Miss Destini Houston. At just 16 years old, Miss Houston is showing us all that leadership, kindness, and advocacy can go hand in hand.

Miss Houston was recently crowned Miss Western New York's Teen, a title she has embraced not for the spotlight but to shine a light on causes close to her heart. She is now receiving national recognition for her inspiring efforts, and she will be honored as New York's recipient of the Kindest Kid in America award.

To celebrate her achievement, the award organization has created a children's book in-

spired by Miss Houston's journey. She will read it to students throughout Western New York in hopes of inspiring a new generation to lead with compassion and purpose. Miss Houston has said, "Being kind isn't just about being nice to people—it's about taking action to help others." She lives by those words. From volunteering and mentoring to working with the Buffalo Urban League to organize an informational event for prospective foster and adoptive families, she is a true changemaker in her community.

In addition to her advocacy, Miss Houston is also a competitive dancer training in multiple styles and performing at high-level competitions. Her dedication to dance has helped build the discipline and confidence that now serve her well as she prepares to compete in the Miss New York pageant.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Destini Houston—not only as Miss Western New York's Teen or the Kindest Kid in America but as a role model, a community leader, and a beacon of hope for the future. Her impact reaches far beyond titles and trophies. Miss Houston reminds us all that even the smallest acts of kindness can lead to something truly extraordinary. Destini's leadership has left an indelible mark on our city, and we are all the better for it.

**CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT
OF THOMAS FRISBIE**

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 21, 2025

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Thomas Frisbie on his retirement, after an extraordinary career as an award-winning writer and editor. Since 1976 Mr. Frisbie has, as he likes to say "held almost every job at the Chicago Sun-Times besides editor".

His commitment to bringing Chicago the news has earned many accolades over the years, including the Jacob Scher Award for Excellence in Investigative Reporting for his series covering insurance fraud at Illinois' largest driving school. He was a finalist for the Peter Lisagor Award twice for his work on judicial conflicts of interest and the open sale of illegal drugs in Cook County Forest Preserves. He was also a finalist the Lisagor Award for Editorial Cartoons.

He was the news editor for the Sun-Times' afternoon edition, the Chicago Sun-Times Final Markets and the Chicago Sun-Times PM edition.

He also co-authored "Victims of Justice" and contributed, and edited "20th Century Chicago: 100 Years, 100 Voices," a chronological history of Chicago.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and all of our colleagues in the House of Representatives in recognizing Mr. Frisbie for his immense contribution of keeping Chicagoans informed.

CELEBRATING DANIELLE ROBERTS

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 21, 2025

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Danielle Roberts, a cause-driven leader whose unwavering passion and commitment to community have made a profound impact throughout Western New York.

In her role as Vice President of Community Impact, Ms. Roberts oversees YMCA Buffalo Niagara's association-wide fundraising and outreach initiatives and leads major community programs, including the iconic YMCA Turkey Trot—the oldest consecutively run footrace in the world. She also played a key leadership role in the YMCA's Capital Campaign to construct a new 65,000-square-foot state-of-the-art facility that will expand access to health and wellness resources for everyone in Western New York to enjoy.

A staunch advocate for equity, Ms. Roberts has worked to close racial disparities in swim instruction and water safety, particularly among African-American teens, who face significantly higher risks of drowning due to a lack of access. Under her guidance, the William-Emslie YMCA and its partners are building pathways for competitive swimming and promoting safety education in historically underserved communities.

Beyond her YMCA work, Ms. Roberts serves as a national trainer for YUSA, specializing in diversity and cultural lens training. Her extensive background includes experience in banking, treasury management, education, public speaking, grant writing, and the performing arts. She is also the Executive Director of Entertaining Angels Productions, a faith-based arts organization, and a classically trained dancer. Earlier in her career, she proudly performed as a professional NFL cheerleader with the Buffalo Bills as a Buffalo Jill.

Mr. Speaker, Danielle Robert's extraordinary service and leadership to the people of Western New York continues to inspire us all to live by the values of citizenship, community service, and integrity, and to make a meaningful impact wherever we can. Her example serves as a beacon of what it means to be a good neighbor in the "City of Good Neighbors" and a leader who embodies the very best of what we can achieve for the greater good, and we are all the better for it.

RECOGNIZING THE 108TH BIRTHDAY OF MARGARET ELIZABETH MORTENSEN

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 21, 2025

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an important birthday being celebrated in Boise, Idaho. Mrs. Margaret Elizabeth Mortensen turns 108 years of age on April 21, 2025.

Margaret was born in Deer Lodge, Montana on April 21, 1917. Her parents were John Matthew Briggeman and Gerena Wolfe

Briggeman. Their family moved with the Wolfe family to Lemhi, Idaho about 1920.

Margaret attended grade school in a one-room schoolhouse in Lemhi. She then attended Idaho State College in Pocatello, Idaho, first as a business major, then as a pharmacy major. Margaret graduated in 1938 as a pharmacist. She worked in Homedale, Idaho where she met Art Mortensen. She married Art Mortensen on June 25, 1941, in Nampa, Idaho. While still working as a pharmacist and wanting to help Art with his aircraft flying business, Margaret began taking courses to become certified as an aviation ground school instructor during WWII. Margaret taught aviation ground school to student pilots in Idaho and Oregon in 1942 and 1943, one of very few women in the Northwest to do so.

Margaret and Art had three children: Robert, Ann, and Perry. After the war, they owned and operated a drug store in Nampa, Idaho. Since the drug store was open six days a week, there was no vacation time. After three years they sold the drug store, and took a vacation for six months in Corpus Christi, Texas. The family lived in a 16 ft travel trailer on the beach. Margaret and Art returned to Idaho and bought a drug store in Parma. They operated that store for four years before selling it, and took the family to Fairbanks, Alaska in the 16 ft travel trailer for the summer of 1959. Next, they moved to San Jacinto, California and stayed for two years. Upon moving back to Idaho, they bought and operated a drug store in Meridian, in 1961. They sold that drug store and moved back to Parma. In 1968 Margaret and Art started the A-BAR-M Mobile Home Park which provided affordable housing for families living and working in the area. While still managing the Mobile Home Park, they moved to the San Juan Islands in the state of Washington, where Margaret worked as the pharmacist in Friday Harbor.

After retirement, Margaret and Art bought a small motorhome and traveled the United States from Washington to Florida. Art Mortensen passed away in 1987, in Bellingham, Washington. Margaret now lives with her son Robert and his wife Connie, in Boise, Idaho. She is celebrating her 108th birthday on April 21, 2025, with family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Margaret Elizabeth Mortensen as she, her family, and friends, celebrate her 108th birthday.

OPPOSITION TO PRESIDENT TRUMP'S AND ELON MUSK'S THEFT OF SOCIAL SECURITY TO PAY FOR HANDOUTS TO BILLIONAIRES

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 21, 2025

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, as a policymaker and citizen, I unconditionally and absolutely reject President Trump's and Elon Musk's work to steal American's Social Security benefits, a scheme that hurts middle-class and working-class families and seniors to pay for tax handouts to billionaires. When Americans already face increased prices and economic hardship from the President's chaotic

policies, Mr. Trump threatens Social Security—the leading assistance program that 73 million Americans depend on for monthly assistance. This group includes the more than 7 million seniors aged 65 or older for whom 90 percent of their income is their earned Social Security benefits. Without Social Security, 52.2 percent of older women would live in poverty. About 45 percent of Black seniors, 52 percent of Latino seniors, and 41 percent of Asian-American seniors rely mostly or only on Social Security for income. This effort to gut Social Security is an appalling illustration of the highest level of greed, where billionaires rob from hard-working Americans to augment their wealth.

By slashing staff, closing 6 out of 10 regional offices, cutting customer service operations, restricting phone service assistance, and spreading falsehoods about the Social Security Administration (SSA), Trump and Musk jeopardize Americans' earned benefits and security. Let me be clear—cuts to the Social Security Administration that prevent beneficiaries from accessing their benefits are absolutely, unequivocally backdoor benefit cuts. Seniors and people with disabilities cannot get help by phone due to reduced phone service. They can't get help by the website that frequently crashes and presents access barriers to the elderly. Nor can they get help in person given the increased distance to offices and longer wait times due to dramatic staff cuts and office closures.

At the time when the greatest number of baby boomers are retiring and need the most help and when SSA already is at its lowest staffing level in decades, it is unconscionable that the Republicans seek to gut Social Security and throw seniors, orphans, and those with disabilities into poverty. All baby boomers will be 67 by 2031. So we are in the peak period of retirement. I introduced the Keeping Our Field Offices Open Act as an essential step to protecting Social Security benefits for the 1 in 5 Americans who need these community offices. Field offices serve as a lifeline for seniors and people with disabilities, giving the in-person assistance to ensure they receive their correct benefits. In my Congressional District alone, 68,550 retired workers, 12,772 disabled workers, and 5,239 widowers or parents receive critical Social Security benefits. An additional 25,000 receive Supplemental Security Income to pay their bills and survive. These constituents rely on field offices when they need help. Field offices are not extra or fluff; they are crucial.

I also must refuse the default Republican Social Security "reform" of raising the retirement age to 70 given that it would disproportionately harm Black men and communities of color who have lower life expectancies. Systematic inequalities in socioeconomic status, education, food security, and access to healthcare play an intricate role in life expectancy. The life expectancy for Black men is age 72.8, in contrast to 77.5 for White men. All Americans should equitably reap the earned benefits of their tireless labor.

With fewer than 100 days in office, President Trump has already caused tremendous harm to Social Security, jeopardizing the well-being of tens of millions of seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities. This assault on Social Security is an assault on our nation's most vulnerable and least secure. Across the nation, this damage is in addition to his erratic