

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

and senseless tariffs and the dramatic reductions or eliminations of essential supports for housing, healthcare, food, and education and so much more. These policies threaten the livelihoods of individuals and our nation's economy—all so the obscenely wealthy grow more secure while condemning the majority to a precarious existence, defenseless against life's unpredictability and wholly susceptible to exploitation and despair. I will fight with every ounce of my being to oppose President Trump's and Elon Musk's theft of Social Security and the Republican effort to cripple Americans for their greed.

**CELEBRATING ASIA CENTER MALL  
AND ASIA FOOD MARKET**

**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 the remarkable contributions of Asia Food Market, a cornerstone of the Western New York community and one of the largest retailers of Asian products in our region. With a diverse selection of over ten thousand goods sourced from across Asia—including Thailand, the Philippines, India, China, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, and many more—Asia Food Market brings the flavors, traditions, and richness of Asian cultures right to the heart of the Buffalo Niagara Region.

Their mission goes far beyond providing authentic food. Asia Food Market is committed to enriching the cultural fabric of our community, fostering understanding, appreciation, and shared experiences among people of all back-

grounds. It stands as a vital bridge between cultures, offering not only culinary delights but also an open invitation to explore and celebrate Asia's vibrant heritage.

With the exciting opening of the Asia Center Mall, the organization is poised to take that mission even further. This new space combines retail, dining, entertainment, and cultural programming, creating a dynamic hub for community engagement and cross-cultural connection. The Asia Center Mall represents a bold vision: one where multiculturalism is not only celebrated but woven into the daily life and economic vitality of our region.

Mr. Speaker, as we acknowledge this milestone, let us recognize the essential role that Asia Food Market plays—not just as a business, but as a beacon of cultural exchange, economic growth, and community spirit. Please join me in applauding the achievements and continued success of both Asia Food Market and the Asia Center Mall, as they remain an enduring source of pride and connection for generations to come.

**TIME DEALER OF THE YEAR 2025**

**HON. MARK B. MESSMER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 21, 2025*

Mr. MESSMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my constituent Raymond Farabaugh, Co-President of D-Patrick, Inc. in Evansville, Indiana, who was named the 2025 TIME Dealer of the Year at the National Automobile Dealers Association Show in New Orleans, Louisiana. This prestigious award reflects the dedication, hard work, and commitment of the entire team

at D-Patrick. Mr. Farabaugh was chosen among a field of 49 national dealer nominees and was selected by a panel of judges from the Tauber Institute at the University of Michigan.

Mr. Farabaugh graduated with a B.S. in psychology from the University of Dayton. Ten years after his graduation, he had the opportunity to start as the finance manager at his father-in-law's Honda dealership. He moved to different dealerships within the group and rose from sales manager to general manager. In 1998, Mr. Farabaugh and his brother-in-law purchased the dealership and now share ownership and responsibilities at D-Patrick.

D-Patrick has invested hundreds of thousands of dollars annually in an array of local Indiana organizations, such as Ark Crisis Children's Center, Boone County Cancer Society, Boys & Girls Club of Evansville, Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra, Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden, Ronald McDonald House Charities of Ohio Valley, Special Olympics Indiana, Tri-State Food Bank and Walk to End Alzheimer's Southwest Indiana.

Mr. Farabaugh is a member of the Automobile Dealers Association of Indiana, where he has served as President and currently as a member of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Farabaugh was nominated for this award by Marty Murphy, Executive Vice President of the Automobile Dealers Association of Indiana. I congratulate Mr. Farabaugh on this outstanding honor of being named the 2025 TIME Dealer of the Year. I commend him for all his contributions to the community and wish him and his family's business continued success.