Imbuing The Sprit of 76 in all his sharing.
Born in Michigan in 1976, later to cross the heartland for a career to pursue.
To work in one of our forefather's bastion of freedom true.
Colonial Williamsburg of that old red, white, and blue.
A lover of history, why she called out to his heart there was no mystery.
Like all the great Inn Keeper's of old, he too was a shining example of hospitality to behold.
Treating his guests like gold, to warm all of their hearts and souls.
With that kind of smile from across the room heart's would hold.
Humble as the day was long, all a part of his life's and our Lord's song.
As year after year, visitors walked up to the front desk hoping he'd appear.
Creating bonds of friendship throughout all those years.
And why it hurts so bad, knowing what a wonderful friend we once had here.
Who never let power go to his head, rising up the ranks in what his fine life to all had said.
The kind of boss every worker wishes by to be led.
Now, proving only the good die young with tear in eye, now in heaven in The Army of our Lord an angel on high.
And in the coming years, as I walk the paths of all magnificent patriots of the past so here.
All have met Darin will remember him and all those patriots and shed a tear.
All one in the same, great American Patriots who once walked the streets here.
Tonight across Michigan and Williamsburg as you lay your heads down to rest.
There comes a gentle rain, are but our Lord's tears from up in Heaven to ease your loved ones pain.
And they will hear Darin on the wind, and when they wake will feel him next to them where he's been,
Watching over them, until one fine day up in Heaven they meet again.
And won't have to cry no more.
Our moments are fleeting, so it's our time on Earth which surely shows our worth in our greetings.
All over our Nation so many have been touched by Darin meeting.
For his kindness and his caring this spirit of 76 with them sharing.
Like Frost said, ''I have miles to go'' before I rest.
Life is short so like Darin always give your best.
Rise . . . rise up to heaven Darin with tears in yours eyes, for our world you have blessed.

In loving memory of Darin Coward.
by Albert ''Bert'' Carey Caswell

RECOGNIZING THE MARRIAGE OF EMILY McLAUGHLIN WISNIEWSKI AND BRANDEN ANTON EHRENREICH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Emily McLaughlin Wisniewski and Mr. Branden Anton Ehrenreich, who were joined in marriage on Saturday, April 26, 2025. This special occasion celebrated the love between two remarkable individuals and marked the beautiful journey they have shared together. This union is a testament to the driven, thoughtful, and vibrant paths they have led to this important moment. Emily, native to New Jersey, is the daughter of John and Deborah Wisniewski. Born and raised in La Plata, Maryland, Branden is the son of Kurt and Tammy Ehrenreich.

Emily is a graduate of New York University, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Political Science, and Georgetown University, where she obtained a Master of Science in Quantitative Economics and Econometrics. Emily has made significant contributions in her career, working for the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and as a statistician for the U.S. Census Bureau. The Royal Conservatory of Music has rated her an accomplished, certified pianist. Branden holds a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from Mount Saint Mary's University and a Master of Science in Computer Science from Towson University. Branden is a talented research scientist at a research and engineering company. Together, Emily and Branden have built a strong, loving partnership that reflects their shared values and passions.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in leading this body in recognition of Emily McLaughlin Wisniewski and Branden Anton Ehrenreich as they embark on their marriage together. It is with great pleasure that I join their friends and family in honoring their exceptional union. I wish them a lifetime of happiness, love, and adventure.

RECOGNIZING HARLEY CROSS, GOLD AWARD

HON. W. GREGORY STEUBE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Harley Cross. Harley is a member of Girl Scouts of Gulf Coast Florida, Troop 5005, and has exemplified extraordinary leadership, innovative problem-solving, and a demonstrated commitment to making a lasting, positive impact, by earning the most prestigious award in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award.

Gold Award Girl Scouts are recognized as trailblazers who are willing to tackle the most pressing challenges facing their communities and the world with measurable, sustainable, and far-reaching results. To earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, high school-age Girl Scouts must identify and investigate an issue they care about, devise a plan, and then lead a team of experts and community members to implement a project that produces lasting change. Over the course of 1–2 years, Gold Award Girl Scouts demonstrate significant initiative, commitment, and leadership, distinguishing them from their peers. Through their resourcefulness and perseverance, they embody the Girl Scout Law to truly make the world a better place.

Harley's project, Community Food Pantry, in partnership with the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office, Stamp Our Hunger, DeSoto Cares, All Faiths Food Bank, and local Girl Scout troops, was an excellent endeavor to address hunger in our community. Harley took action by collecting food donations, educating community members about food insecurity, and building a brand new food pantry to serve her community, which will have a positive impact on our community for years to come.

On behalf of the 17th Congressional District of Florida, congratulations to Harley Cross for achieving the highest distinction in Girl Scouts, the Gold Award. We thank Harley for her leadership and making such a positive, lasting change in our community.

HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KENWOOD OAKLAND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the remarkable 60th Anniversary of the Kenwood Oakland Community Organization (KOCO), a cornerstone of community empowerment and a beacon of hope in the 1st Congressional District of Illinois and the City of Chicago.

The Kenwood Oakland Community Organization, otherwise known as KOCO, was founded in 1965 by visionary community and religious leaders. It stands as one of the oldest Black-led, membership-based grassroots community organizations in Chicago. KOCO has served as a vital force for justice, dignity and transformation, steadfastly uplifting low-income and working African American families in the Kenwood-Oakland and broader Bronzeville communities.

KOCO's enduring mission is to cultivate multi-generational leadership and effect meaningful change in public policy. It has made significant strides through impactful campaigns that have expanded access to affordable housing, ensured equitable education opportunities, advanced youth leadership development, championed the rights and well-being of senior citizens and vigorously fought for healthcare access and environmental justice.

KOCO's dedication to their mission has achieved historic victories, leaving behind an indelible mark on the community. This includes the construction of King High School, the establishment of over 400 units for those that needed affordable housing, founding a vital community medical clinic, as well as establishing a national precedent through the successful reopening of Dyett High School, which followed a courageous 34-day hunger strike.

KOCO's advocacy has aided in the reopening of the University of Chicago's adult trauma center and secured the landmark Community Benefits Agreement that proactively prevents the displacement of long-term residents surrounding the Obama Presidential Center. Additionally, KOCO launched transformative initiatives such as GirlsLead, the Bronzeville Restorative Justice Hub, and the Silver Fox Café, each centering on healing the community and fostering economic development in the Black community.

Under the dedicated and visionary leadership of Executive Director Shannon Bennett, KOCO continues to expand its reach and deepen its impact while remaining grounded in its core mission: to empower new generations of Black leaders who will continue the vital

work of advancing opportunity, liberty, and justice for all.

KOCO's historic legacy, its transformative impact on the lives of countless individuals and families, and its enduring role as a beacon of hope and liberation for the City of Chicago and the Nation will continue to inspire our community to great acts of service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 60th anniversary of KOCO.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LORTON COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER (LCAC)

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lorton Community Action Center (LCAC) on the momentous occasion of its 50th Anniversary and to honor its extraordinary service to the residents of southeastern Fairfax County.

Founded in 1975 as the Lorton Community Information Center, LCAC began as a grassroots effort to connect neighbors in need with basic essentials such as food, clothing, and human services. What began at Gunston Elementary has since evolved into a lifeline for thousands across Lorton, Fort Belvoir, Newington, and beyond.

Under the visionary leadership of founder Christine Herbstreith, LCAC was built on the idea of a "supermarket of human services," a dream that became reality in 2022 with the opening of the co-located Lorton Community Center and Lorton Library. From this vibrant hub, LCAC continues to expand its reach and impact.

In just the past three years, LCAC has witnessed a steady rise in demand. From serving 1,700 individuals in FY 2023 to nearly 1,800 in just the first half of FY 2025, LCAC has never wavered in its commitment to serving our community. Food pantry visits alone are expected to top 11,000 this year, a testament to both growing need and the Center's enduring role in meeting it.

As Executive Director Rob Rutland-Brown has noted, this work continues through trusted partnerships, dedicated volunteers, and the incredible generosity of donors. Even amid economic uncertainties and the potential impacts of federal policy changes, LCAC remains steadfast, adaptive, and deeply rooted in service.

In 2025, LCAC is not only marking its golden anniversary with a gala celebration and a tribute to its founder, but also with strategic initiatives to deepen its impact. These include strengthening its food pantry and case management programs and investing in education and workforce development.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating LCAC on 50 years of transformative service. I extend my deepest appreciation to the board of directors, staff, and countless volunteers past and present who have made this work possible. Through their compassion and commitment, they have built not just a service organization, but a pillar of hope and dignity for all in our community. Here's to the next 50 years of progress, partnership, and purpose.

HONORING THE LUCAS FOUNDATION

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today, the 12th Congressional District recognizes the critical work of the LUCAS Foundation, and its upcoming 1,000-mile relay run to raise awareness about the tragic reality that suicide is the leading cause of death among law enforcement officers.

Beginning its powerful six-state journey in Atlanta, Georgia, on September 24 and ending in Detroit, Michigan, on September 30, this run encompasses 130 relay legs. More than just a physical feat, the relay serves as a crucial call to action, dedicated to raising vital awareness about the mental health crisis within law enforcement and dismantling the stigma that often prevents officers from seeking the help to overcome their battles.

I honor the volunteers, families, and first responders behind this effort and support their call for congressional action to recognize this epidemic and uplift suicide prevention work. I thank the LUCAS Foundation for their tireless commitment to saving lives and creating a culture of support and healing.

RECOGNIZING THE HIGH PLAINS HONOR FLIGHT

HON. GABE EVANS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. EVANS of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate our Nation's brave men and women and to recognize the High Plains Honor Flight Network, which conducts trips for veterans to Washington, D.C., to tour the monuments built to honor their bravery and service. The High Plains Honor Flight gave some of our fellow brave men and women the chance to visit our Nation's capital. As a fellow veteran myself, I am pleased to honor the High Plains Honor Flight and to recognize the World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans of Colorado who took part in it.

Mr. Speaker, the veterans who participated in this flight are as follows:

Veteran of World War II: Richard Chubb.

Korean War Veterans: Dale Bellinger, Elmer Dillman, Donald Garcia, Robert Golden, Donald Mayfield, David Mourisse.

Veteran of both Korean and Vietnam War: Darwin Dow.

Vietnam War Veterans: Anthony Aragon, Robert Archuleta, Dennis Argo, Clarence Axtell, Thomas Bacon, William Baker, Alfred Barthelemy, Larry Beck, Kenneth Beckstead, John Bona, Dallas Bowles, Robert Bowser, James Brinks, Richard Brown, Henry Castillon, Richard Clampitt, Dennis Clermont, Thomas Corrick, Kenneth Cosby, Manuel Covarrubias, Duane Crapser, Gary Cummins, Milo Cushman, Herbert Davis II, Arthur Dehn, Jr., Ben Delahay, David DeMars, Manfred Dorth, William Dundas, Robert Eatman, William Eckert, Donald Eddy, Darrell Einspahr, Teddy Emmons, William Farr, Daniel Frodsham, Sylvio Gamache, Leslie Gardinier, Melchor Garza, Frank Gower, Delbert Hammond, George Hampton, Edward Hansen, Larry Hanson, Stanley Hanson, Delbert Hawkins, Harlow Hill, John Hoelscher, Robert Holt, III, Alfred Homan, Lowell Hummels, Jerome Jaworski, David Johnson, Jonnie Johnson, Korwin Johnson, Clifford Jung, Leonard Juranek, William Klingman, Richard Kotch, Homer Kurtz, Jr., Richard Laingor, Steven Lamon, Jim Lantis, Peter Lederer, Robert Lindsey, James Ling, Larry Luckow, Ronald Macaluso, Karl Magnuson, Russell Maher, Edward Messer, Philip Mollendor, Jr., Robert Mygatt, Robert Neal, John Neill, Jr., James Nelson, Richard Nenno, Michael Nissen, Merlin Otteman, James Pelster, Jonathan Platt, Lloyd Poindexter, Peter Raube, Ronald Ring, James Roof, Jr., John Ross, John Schieler, Carolyn Schneider, David Schneider, William Schumann, Larry Seems, Jerry Severidt, Bryon Shapiro, William Sipe, Carl Smith, Danny Smith, William Stanley, Jr., Lawrence Starck, Richard Steely, Ronald Stine, William Sturgeon, Jerry Tausz, Allen Thomsen, Carlton Thygesen, Antonio Trujillo, Edwin Visconti, Wilton Webb, William Williams, Michael Young, Richard Yurkus.

It is my honor and privilege as a veteran and the United States Representative of the 8th District of Colorado to recognize the sacrifice and service of these men and women and all other members of our Nation's military. I thank them for their bravery and service to our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND KENNETH F. HODGES

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a distinguished South Carolinian—a pastor, legislator, artist, and community builder whose influence reached far beyond his beloved Lowcountry.

Reverend Kenneth F. Hodges, a native of Bennetts Point, passed away on April 22, 2025, having left an indelible imprint on the spiritual, cultural, and civic life of South Carolina. His journey was marked by service, creativity, and a deep devotion to both his heritage and his faith.

Born to Benjamin and Lydia Hodges in the Sea Island community of Bennetts Point, Reverend Hodges excelled early in both academics and athletics. A record-setting track star at Walterboro High School, he went on to earn a business degree from Clark College, where he also studied photography under the esteemed Edmond Marshal. His powerful images of African life and culture earned national acclaim and awards. His passion for the arts led him to establish LyBensons Studio and Art Gallery—later expanding into the Gullah Geechee Visitors Center on St. Helena Island.

After earning a Master of Divinity degree from the Morehouse School of Religion in Atlanta, Georgia, Reverend Hodges pastored churches in Bennettsville and Beaufort, South Carolina. At Taberbacle Baptist Church, he spearheaded efforts to honor African American icons, including securing recognition for Robert Smalls' gravesite and leading the construction of the Harriet Tubman Monument. His spiritual calling extended abroad as he preached and taught across Africa and the United Kingdom.