for achieving the highest distinction in Girl Scouts, the Gold Award. We thank Victoria for her leadership and making such a positive, lasting change in our community.

CONGRATULATING LINDA LARSON ON HER GRADUATION FROM INVER HILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Linda Larson on fulfilling her lifelong dream of completing her college education. Linda graduated with an Associate's Degree with an emphasis on political science from Inver Hills Community College. She also graduated as part of Phi Beta Kappa.

Linda grew up on a small farm near Ruthton, Minnesota. As the daughter of a tenant farmer, Linda learned early on the challenges and instability farmers face in trying to earn a living. This informed her work at the Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU), where she has advocated for affordable healthcare and the needs of family farmers. Additionally, Linda has been a strong leader for women in farming. In 2013, she helped reestablish the MFU Women's Conference and later received the 2013 MFU Leadership Excellence award along with her husband, Brian. She is the current president of the Dakota County Farmers Union and regularly attends Farmers Union events at the local, state and national level.

I know Linda through her work on my Farmers Advisory Council, which she has been a member of since I came to Congress in 2019. Linda has provided invaluable feedback to my work on agriculture policy as I've fought to ensure family farmers have a strong farm safety net. I look forward to our continued collaboration to pass a bipartisan farm bill.

I congratulate Linda on her graduation and thank her for her service to our community.

RECOGNIZING GOLD AWARD GIRL SCOUT RECIPIENTS

HON. SCOTT FITZGERALD

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating several remarkable Girl Scouts from Wisconsin's 5th Congressional District for demonstrating leadership, creativity, and a commitment to making a lasting impact by earning the most prestigious award in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award.

Gold Award Girl Scouts help their communities and the world by identifying a community need, investigating it, devising a plan, and leading a team of experts and community members to implement a project that produces lasting change. Over the course of 1 to 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 make the world a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to the following outstanding young women:

Ayla Abraham, Troop 6249
Sophia Ayer, Troop 8017
Angela Brandes, Troop 4796
Mia Bremner, Individually Registered Member
Madeline Bruss, Troop 8329
Abigail Connett, Troop 4801
Anissa Griffith, Troop 4633
Alexandra Higbee, Troop 4569
Jenna Jegl, Troop 6239
Rayna Jellish, Troop 9300
Katelyn Kosfeld, Troop 8093
Gracie Lochowicz, Troop 4801
Tatiana Mamalakis, Troop 8004
Sarah Marcheske, Troop 8329
Lauren Munson, Troop 4796
Zoe Peterson, Troop 8017
Kylie Rich, Troop 4801
Megan Schatz, Troop 4679
Skylar Smith, Troop 4333
Samantha Sroka, Troop 8093
Sydney Vande Hei, Troop 4582
Sydney Zarske, Troop 8004
Eleanor Zgonc, Troop 8004

Mr. Speaker, I commend these Girl Scouts on their incredible accomplishment, and thank them for all the work they have done in service of communities across Wisconsin's 5th Congressional District.

INDIA–U.S. DEAL SIGNALS ENERGY SOVEREIGNTY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week, Vice President J.D. VANCE with his Indian-American wife Usha, achieved a global recalibration for energy independence meeting with America's appreciated ally Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

It is an extraordinary recognition of the positive impact of Indian-Americans that the Second Lady of America is an Indian-American herself.

American partnership has never been more important with the world's oldest democracy allied with the world's largest democracy.

An excellent analysis of this energy achievement was provided in the daily Threat Status newsletter from The Washington Times on April 28, 2025, by Vijay Jayaraj of the CO2 Coalition in Fairfax, Virginia:

OPINION

In a landmark move that may well redefine the future of U.S.–India trade relations and global energy geopolitics, Vice President J.D. Vance announced a new trade deal with India. The day after he met with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on April 21, Mr. Vance said the two countries had ''officially finalized the terms of reference for the trade negotiation.''

The deal, initiated against the backdrop of President Trump's tariff threats, could be a masterstroke of economic diplomacy. Mr. Trump's announcement of a 90-day pause on reciprocal tariffs, which could have raised duties on Indian exports, gave India a window to negotiate.

The energy economics of this deal and its potential to reshape the global market for fossil fuels are fascinating. In his announcement, Mr. Vance declared, ''We want to sell more energy to India and also help it explore its resources, including offshore natural gas reserves and critical mineral supplies.''

The arrangement could propel India toward its long-standing goal of energy surplus. This feat appeared daunting, perhaps impossible, against the nation's projections for a massive increase in demand, the fastest-growing among major economies for the next two decades.

Let's get it straight: India has a long way to go before it even contemplates reducing its consumption of hydrocarbons. Even a middle-class Indian like me residing in a major city experiences power blackouts regularly, which is precisely why the nation has postponed net-zero ambitions to a distant 2070. Even the documents for the country's participation in the nutty United Nations Paris Agreement prioritize domestic energy security over international climate diplomacy.

India's reliance on imported energy, which includes more than 85% of its crude oil and roughly 50% of its natural gas, poses a strategic vulnerability. The government aims to more than double natural gas' share of the energy mix to 15% by 2030. U.S. liquefied natural gas suppliers have surpassed the United Arab Emirates to become India's second-largest LNG supplier, trailing only Qatar.

A key player in this unfolding saga is GAIL Ltd., India's state-owned natural gas company. On April 11, GAIL issued a tender to procure 1 million metric tons per annum of LNG from an existing or new U.S. LNG liquefaction project, with operations commencing by 2030. The agreement, potentially extendable by five to 10 years, signals India's commitment to U.S. supplies.

GAIL had to stall a similar process in 2023 to buy a stake in a U.S. LNG plant after President Biden banned export permits for LNG projects. The ban was lifted only after the Trump administration returned to the White House.

The timing of the upcoming deal is notable, strengthening India's position as a counterweight to China. The Quad alliance—comprising the U.S., India, Japan and Australia—gains heft as India bolsters its energy security and economic clout.

As Mr. Vance emphasized, the U.S. willingness to share technology and expertise could enhance Indian autonomy, reducing reliance on adversarial suppliers. This alignment is particularly crucial as China intensifies its trade outreach in Southeast Asia and seeks to blunt the effect of U.S. tariffs.

The Western media will decry the expansion of fossil fuel trading as a climate catastrophe, as though that would resonate with a serious person. The U.S.-India deal wisely eschews climate moralizing and embraces a symbiotic truth: America's shale boom and India's hunger for energy perfectly match.

This deal reaffirms energy sovereignty. Perhaps it marks the beginning of a global recalibration, in which nations rediscover the courage to assert their right to energy abundance and economic self-determination without apologizing to the corrupt and decrepit climate cartel of Brussels, Davos and U.N. corridors.

May the new world order feature developing nations standing for their futures and rejecting the false campaign of planetary salvation.

RECOGNIZING THE CHARTERING OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

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 distinguished service organization, Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. (TLOD), and to celebrate the chartering of their Fairfax County Chapter.

The story of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. began in 1964 with a simple lunch invitation. When Mrs. Willie Lee Glass was unable to attend a luncheon hosted by Mrs. Lyndon Baines Johnson, she asked Major Ozell M. Dean to attend in her place. Inspired by what she witnessed at that gathering, Major Dean reached out to Mrs. Glass and other distinguished Texas women to explore the possibility of forming an organization dedicated to addressing the challenges faced by youth in their communities.

From its inaugural meeting on June 4, 1964, at Texas College in Tyler, Texas, TLOD has grown into a renowned national service organization with 135 chapters and over 5,300 members across the country. Their mission has expanded to include service initiatives for youth, women, senior citizens, community beautification, and strategic partnerships.

A cornerstone of their efforts remains the Top Teens of America (TTA) program, which provides young people with educational, social, cultural, and economic development opportunities. Today, more than 3,200 Top Teens benefit from this vital program.

Now, in 2025, the Fairfax County Chapter joins this legacy of service under the leadership of:

Amber R. Talbert, President

Dr. Charlotte Lofton, 1st Vice President

Millisa Lucas Gary, 2nd Vice President

Angel Lungelow Cooper, Recording Secretary

Indra' Gibson, Treasurer

Crystal Bivens, Financial Secretary

Marlo Thomas Watson, TTA Advisor

Additionally, the chapter is privileged to have Lady Tangie Lafaye Phair as its Organizer, guiding a distinguished group of charter members committed to advancing TLOD's mission in Fairfax County. Under the visionary leadership of National Area II Director Lady Hope V. Ruffin and President and CEO, Lady Eddie Lee Marsh, Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. continues to leave a lasting impact on communities across the Nation through service, mentorship, and advocacy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Fairfax County Chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. I commend these outstanding women for their dedication to service, mentorship, and community engagement.

CELEBRATING GEORGE PERRY'S 103RD BIRTHDAY AND HONORING HIS SERVICE TO HIS COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate George Perry on his 103rd birthday and for his longstanding service to his country and the York County community.

You would be hard pressed to find a better representative of York County than Mr. George Perry. He has served his country, his community, and is still active in the running of his family's business. George Perry was born on his family's dairy farm in York, Pennsylvania in 1922. Since then, Perry has become an icon in the community as the head of his family's thriving business, Perrydell Farms. Perrydell Farms produces fresh milk and ice cream made, all of which is made on site.

Not only is Perry a veteran of the dairy industry but also World War II. He left college in 1943 to join the Army and fight in the Pacific. After the war, Mr. Perry took over Perrydell Farms in 1949 with his brother. Together, they helped to establish Perrydell as a local one-stop-shop for fresh, high-quality milk and ice cream. In his 103 years, Mr. Perry has seen a great deal of change in agriculture in York County. One constant throughout that time has been Perrydell Farms, which celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2023.

Perrydell's long and storied history in York County is due in large part to the work of George Perry, who over his more than a century of life has pursued a mission of providing quality products to his community. Perrydell Farms is now run by Mr. Perry's three sons, Tom, Greg, and Chip. Despite no longer running the farm, George is regarded as the farm's patriarch, an invaluable member of the farm and family's history in the dairy industry.

It is with great enthusiasm that I congratulate Mr. Perry on his 103rd birthday, his service to our country, and his success as a business owner. His stewardship of Perrydell Farms has allowed it to remain a staple of the community, and I hope for their continued success for years to come.

HONORING PRINCIPAL MARKISHA STOVALL

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today, the 12th Congressional District honors an exceptional leader within our community: Principal Markisha Stovall of Madison Carver Academy. Her unwavering dedication to her students, their families, and our community embodies the very essence of exemplary public service.

Born and raised in Detroit, Principal Stovall's resilient life story includes overcoming the loss of her mother to addiction, her father's incarceration, and being raised by her grandmother with five siblings. Despite these hardships, she graduated from Michigan State University and, as a single mother, became an educator to uplift all children.

Serving as the Principal of Madison Carver Academy, her leadership has yielded transformative results: a significant 33 percent surge in enrollment, an impressive 99 percent average attendance rate, the establishment of over 20 enriching student clubs, and the implementation of crucial wraparound services to support families facing crises.

The 12th Congressional District honors her leadership and commitment to our students and community. I congratulate her on all her accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ELON LOUISE WILLIAMS

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 honor the remarkable life of Elon Louise Williams, a woman whose dedication to her family and community left an enduring legacy.

Mrs. Williams was born on July 14, 1930, to Melvina and Hayden Owens. She had one brother, Yeoman Owens, who preceded her in death. She lived in Harvey, Illinois and was from Milton, Florida.

Mrs. Williams was a woman of strength and devotion. She shared over 60 years of life and love with her beloved husband, the late Sylvester E. Williams, whom she married on January 6, 1950.

Together, they raised four children: Alan Williams, Dale Williams, Vera Williams and Janet Williams, all who attended college. Their family was built on love and mutual respect.

For over three decades, Mrs. Williams faithfully served her community as a mail sorter for the United States Postal Service. She often worked long hours diligently ensuring our local postal operations ran smoothly. She was more than a mail sorter, however. With her consistent presence and friendly nature, she was a source of connection for those in her community. Her commitment to her work and the genuine care she had for her community earned her numerous commendations from both her colleagues and her community.

Mrs. Williams's positive influence extended throughout her community. She was known for her generosity, always ready to offer a helping hand or a word of encouragement. She made a difference in countless lives, often in deeply meaningful ways.

Beyond her career, Mrs. Williams was the cornerstone of her family. She provided unwavering love, support and guidance, shaping the lives of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Her wisdom and kindness created a lasting impact that will be felt for generations.

While we mourn her passing, we take solace in knowing her legacy will extend far beyond her years on earth. Her kind spirit will live on in the lives of those she touched, and we will not soon forget her incredible deeds and generosity. I thank Mrs. Elon Louise Williams, for her years of unwavering service. May she rest in peace.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life of Mrs. Elon Louise Williams.