

and his wonderful sense of humor. These attributes served him well as a labor mediator. He had an unwavering love for his family, his friends, and his community.

I had the pleasure and opportunity to meet and work with Tank on important fire services issues. I admired his dedication to his profession and to his fellow firefighters, and his tireless work on their behalf. He will be greatly missed, but certainly not forgotten.

I offer my sincerest condolences to his wife, LuAnn, daughter Kaleena, and their entire family.

HONORING PETER YARROW

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2025

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of an extraordinary man, Peter Yarrow, of the legendary folk trio, Peter, Paul and Mary. Peter passed away at home in New York City on January 7, 2025, at the age of 86. He is survived by his spouse, Mary Beth McCarthy Yarrow, children Christopher Yarrow and Bethany Yarrow and his beloved granddaughter, Valentina.

The son of Ukrainian Jewish Immigrants, Peter was born and raised in New York City, attended New York's High School of Music and Arts, and graduated from Cornell University in 1959. While at Cornell, Peter took an American Folk Literature course in which singing and guitar playing were prerequisites. Thus began a career that would span the ages. Upon graduating, Peter moved to New York City and began a successful run in the Greenwich Village folk movement with the purpose of creating community through music. Peter, Paul and Mary debuted in 1961, enjoyed huge success with six top 10 hits on the Billboard "Hot 100" and five Grammy Awards. Peter's gift for songwriting produced some of the most poignant songs Peter, Paul & Mary have recorded, including "Puff, the Magic Dragon," "Day is Done," "Light One Candle," and "The Great Mandala."

Peter had a firm and devout commitment to activism and organizing. He devoted his time and talents to the Civil Rights Movement which brought Peter, Paul and Mary to Washington in 1963, to participate in both the historic March on Washington led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the historic Selma-Montgomery March in 1965. Peter was a founding board member of the Newport Folk Festival and used his organizing skills to shine light on merging folk performers and songwriters to a wider audience. He was a leader in the Peace/Anti-Vietnam war movement, the equal rights movement, deeply committed to protecting the environment, gender equality, ending homelessness, supporting the hospice care movement, public broadcasting and education.

In 1999, Peter founded the non-profit education and advocacy organization, Operation Respect. Operation Respect's classroom based "Don't Laugh at Me" curriculum was created to combat school bullying, promote tolerance and provide children with the tools necessary to express their feelings constructively, resolve conflict peacefully, celebrate diversity and engage with each other coopera-

tively and compassionately. Operation Respect's success has reached over 22,000 US schools and expanded globally, including Ukraine, Israel, Jordan, Palestine, Hong Kong, Croatia, Canada and Japan with the aim of fostering dialogue and understanding around the world. Operation Respect has found that schools committed to establishing a respectful, safe and compassionate learning environment, experience improvements in academic achievement, student attendance and staff retention, at the same time reducing bullying, violence and other behavioral issues.

It was an honor to call Peter a friend. I'm grateful for his kindness, compassion, commitment to peace, promotion of human rights, and boundless talent which has been an inspiration for me and will continue to inspire many for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the remarkable life and the visionary work of Peter Yarrow.

RECOGNIZING PRIVATE CHARLES T. NORWOOD AND THE CHARLES T. NORWOOD AMERICAN LEGION POST 157

HON. DEBORAH K. ROSS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2025

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Private Charles T. Norwood and to recognize the significant contributions of the Charles T. Norwood American Legion Post 157.

Private Charles T. Norwood served with distinction in Company H, 365th Infantry Regiment, 92nd Infantry Division during World War I. On November 11, 1918, mere hours before the Armistice, Private Norwood was wounded in action. He succumbed to his injuries and Lobar Pneumonia on January 17, 1919, becoming the first African American soldier from Raleigh, North Carolina, to make the ultimate sacrifice in World War I. Private Norwood was laid to rest with full military honors in the Raleigh National Cemetery on August 1, 1921. He rests in Section 8, Site 1226.

The Charles T. Norwood American Legion Post 157 was chartered on December 19, 1924, to honor his memory and service. At a time when American society was segregated, including Veterans Service Organizations, the charter members of Post 157 were African American veterans of World War I. These founding members represented a cross-section of Raleigh's African American community, including medical professionals, businessmen, educators, administrators, and community leaders.

For more than 100 years, the Charles T. Norwood American Legion Post 157 has served as a beacon of community service, veteran support, and civic engagement in Raleigh. Its establishment and ongoing legacy stand as a testament to the contributions of African American veterans to our nation's history and to the enduring spirit of service that defines the American Legion.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the heroism of Private Charles T. Norwood on the 106th anniversary of his death and commending the Charles T. Norwood American Legion Post 157 for its commitment

to veterans and the Raleigh community for more than a century. May this legacy continue to inspire future generations to serve our nation and support our veterans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2025

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, due to travel restrictions related to my pregnancy, I was unable to travel to D.C. to vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 10; YEA on Roll Call No. 11; and NAY on Roll Call No. 12.

RECOGNIZING CATHERINE SCLAFANI LONGABUCCO'S 102ND BIRTHDAY

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2025

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Catherine Sclafani Longabucco, an amazing constituent from my district who will be celebrating her 102nd birthday on January 29, 2025. It is a distinct honor to pay tribute to Mrs. Longabucco on this joyous occasion and to highlight the extraordinary life and contributions that endear her to so many in our community.

Throughout her life, Catherine has exemplified a spirit of resilience, generosity and dedication and has been an integral member of our community. Prior to moving to Doylestown in 2021, Mrs. Longabucco raised her three children, Amelia, John, and Frank Jr., with her beloved husband Frank in New York.

Catherine has six great-grandchildren and enjoys learning more about what they are doing in their daily lives. She is an avid sudoku player and challenges herself to complete one puzzle every day in between her volunteering at the Central Bucks Senior Center and playing Rummikub, mahjong and bingo. If you need to find Catherine, she is likely helping to set up for the bingo festivities.

As we celebrate her 102 years of life, we are incredibly grateful for the positive impact she has made on all who know her.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF PATRICK O'BRIEN

HON. ELISE M. STEFANK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2025

Ms. STEFANK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Patrick O'Brien for his service as Fire Chief to the Town of Massena.

Mr. O'Brien has dedicated his life to public service and has served his country and community from a variety of positions. He has worked as a safety and compliance regional manager for MESA Air Group, an information systems technician for the U.S. Navy Reserve, a State Fire Instructor for the Office of Fire

Prevention & Control, the Director of Environmental Health, Safety, and Emergency Management for the State University of New York at Potsdam, and as the Fire Chief to the Town of Massena.

Mr. O'Brien started his work with the Massena Fire Department in 2007 and has been an incredible asset to the department ever since. With over 20 years of emergency planning and response experience, Mr. O'Brien is exceptionally driven and provides incredible service to Massena. His election as Fire Chief in 2023 reflects his relentless drive for quality, risk management, and teamwork which has improved countless lives in the North Country.

On behalf of New York's 21st district, it is my privilege and honor to recognize the great accomplishments of Patrick O'Brien. I congratulate him on his incredible achievements and thank him for his contributions to our North Country community.

TRIBUTE TO LOUISVILLE METRO COUNCILWOMAN MADONNA FLOOD

HON. MORGAN MCGARVEY

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2025

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Louisville Metro Councilwoman Madonna Flood and to acknowledge her exemplary leadership, unwavering dedication, and significant contributions to the people and communities of Louisville.

First elected in 2002, Councilwoman Flood has served as a founding member of the Louisville Metro Council, representing District 24, which includes the communities of Okolona, Highview, and Fern Creek, among others. Through her leadership and commitment to service, she has improved quality of life for countless residents, advocating for policies and investments that have shaped the growth of her district and Louisville Metro as a whole.

As Democratic Caucus Chair and Chair of key committees such as Planning & Zoning, Budget, and Public Safety, she has been instrumental in guiding policy decisions that have made a lasting impact on the city. Councilwoman Flood's role in advancing initiatives like the Fairness Ordinance, Smoking Ban Ordinance, and Adult Entertainment Ordinance exemplifies her commitment to fairness, public health, and safety for all citizens.

Councilwoman Flood's leadership was vital in the construction of the South Central Regional Library, providing a valuable resource for the community, and she worked tirelessly to resolve drainage issues in Okolona, improving infrastructure and addressing the needs of her constituents.

Mr. Speaker, Councilwoman Flood's legacy of public service is built upon a foundation of dedication, advocacy, and an enduring commitment to improving the lives of those she served. Her contributions to Louisville's land use, public safety, and quality of life will continue to resonate for generations. I express my profound gratitude for her leadership, vision, and service, and I wish her well in her future endeavors.

REINTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO AWARD THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO HUMANITARIAN AND SPORTING LEGEND MUHAMMAD ALI

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2025

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, as we kick off the first session of the new Congress, I am proud to reintroduce legislation to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Muhammad Ali in recognition of his numerous contributions to our great Nation. I believe it is long past time to recognize an American civil rights activist, humanitarian and sporting legend with Congress' highest honor. Unfortunately, Congress failed to act before The Champ's death in 2016, at the age 74, so I ask my colleagues to join me now in honoring an American hero, on the eve of what would have been his 83rd birthday. Over the course of his illustrious career, Muhammad Ali produced some of our Nation's most lasting sports memories. From winning a Gold Medal at the 1960 Summer Olympics, to lighting the Olympic torch at the 1996 Summer Olympics, his influence as an athlete and a humanitarian spanned over fifty years.

Despite having been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in the 1980s, Ali devoted his life to charitable organizations. Ali, and his wife Lonnie, were founding directors of the Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center and Movement Disorders Clinic in Phoenix, Arizona and helped raise over \$50 million for Parkinson's research. In addition to helping families cope with illness, Ali led efforts to provide meals for the hungry and helped countless organizations such as the Make-A-Wish-Foundation and the Special Olympics.

Muhammad Ali's humanitarian efforts went beyond his charitable activities in the United States. In 1990 Muhammad Ali travelled to the Middle East to seek the release of American and British hostages that were being held as human shields in the first Gulf War. After his intervention, 15 hostages were freed. Thanks to his devotion to diplomatic causes and racial harmony, Ali was the recipient of many accolades, including being chosen as a "U.N. Messenger of Peace" in 1998 and receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2005 from President Bush.

Through his unyielding dedication to his sport and to struggling populations around the world, Muhammad Ali still serves an example of service and self-sacrifice for generations of Americans. The Congressional Gold Medal is a fitting commemoration of his life and work, for which he is deservedly known as "the Greatest."

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing one of our Nation's most lasting and influential figures by signing on to this important legislation. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to include in the RECORD a recent op-ed published in the American Bar Association Human Rights Magazine.

[From the American Bar Association Human Rights Magazine, Nov. 25, 2024]

THE FIGHT FOR MUHAMMAD ALI IN CONGRESS = THE FIGHT AGAINST ISLAMOPHOBIA

(By Rep. ANDRÉ CARSON)

The fight for fairness is not a one-time battle; it is an ongoing struggle that can be ex-

hausting and frustrating. While sometimes there is a knockout punch that leads to a sudden victory, more often, it is a marathon requiring patience, dedication, and endurance.

This is especially true of legislative victories throughout American history. From the long marches of Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, to the hundreds of bus boycotts and sit-ins that finally helped push the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act across the finish line, progress can be painstakingly slow.

Even the fight to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with a national holiday took 15 years from the first bill introduced by Rep. John Conyers and Sen. Edward Brooke to passage and enactment of a revised bill authored by Rep. Katie Hall, the first Black woman elected to represent Indiana in Congress. Yet even after President Ronald Reagan signed the bill into law in 1983, the holiday was not recognized in all 50 states until 2000.

Similarly, Rep. Julia Carson, the second Black woman from Indiana elected to serve in Congress, introduced a bill in 2006 to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Muhammad Ali. Despite her efforts, that bill never received a committee hearing, let alone a floor vote. Since her death and my election to Congress, I have taken up this mantle, reintroducing the bill eight times—from the 111th Congress in 2009 to the current 118th Congress. Despite widespread support from groups across the country, the bill has still not made it to a vote.

Muhammad Ali, "The Greatest," was a true American hero. After winning a gold medal for the United States at the 1960 Summer Olympics, Ali converted to Islam in 1961 and soon became the world heavyweight champion at the age of 22. In 1964, he rejected his birth name, Cassius Clay, which he called his "slave name," and formally adopted the name Muhammad Ali.

In 1967, as a conscientious objector, Ali refused to be drafted into the military because of his religious and moral opposition to the Vietnam War. Convicted of draft evasion, he appealed his case all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, which overturned the conviction in 1971. After reclaiming his world heavyweight title, Ali dedicated his post-boxing career to serving as a global ambassador for peace, civil rights, human rights, and fairness for everyone.

Ali has long held a special place in the hearts of Indiana Hoosiers, especially mine. He first visited the Indiana Black Expo's Summer Celebration in 1987 as an activist and returned in 1996 to support my grandmother, Julia Carson, in her first run for Congress, which she won. In 2003, Ali returned to Indianapolis when he served as grand marshal of the Indy 500 before a crowd of 300,000 cheering fans.

My grandmother and Muhammad Ali inspired me early in life to become civically active and stand up for my beliefs. Both were born in Louisville, Kentucky, from humble beginnings and used the prejudice they faced as motivation to succeed. They fought tirelessly to accomplish their goals and became champions in their respective fields—Ali in the boxing ring and my grandmother in the halls of Congress. They shared a passion for defending their beliefs and were never afraid to fight for what was right.

Muhammad Ali deserves a Congressional Gold Medal, yet despite all his contributions, we have not been able to secure the 290 co-sponsors needed to get a vote on my current bill, H.R. 709. So far, we have just 91.

Why is it that someone as universally beloved as Ali, a man whose life and legacy have inspired so many around the globe, has yet to receive the recognition he deserves