

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING THE URBAN LEGENDS HAIR STUDIO

#### HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2025*

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with immense pride to recognize a truly valued small business and an indispensable pillar of our community: Urban Legends Hair Studio, founded in 2006 by the esteemed Mr. Aldo Brown. Located at 1419 E 79th St., Urban Legends Hair Studio has, for nearly two decades, transcended the traditional role of a barbershop; it has become a vibrant and essential cornerstone of the South Side of Chicago.

Mr. Brown, with his profound vision, unwavering dedication, and entrepreneurial spirit, has cultivated an establishment that is far more than just a place for exceptional hair care services.

Urban Legends Hair Studio stands as a dynamic community hub, a gathering place where relationships are forged, conversations flourish, and a sense of belonging is palpable. It is a space where clients not only receive top-tier styling but also find camaraderie and a genuine connection to their neighborhood.

Urban Legends Hair Studio has consistently demonstrated an unyielding commitment to excellence, unparalleled professionalism, and the cultivation of a truly welcoming and inclusive environment for every client who walks through its doors.

Their remarkable longevity and sustained success over nearly twenty years are a powerful testament to their unwavering dedication to superior quality, their deep-seated roots within the community, and their ability to adapt and thrive while maintaining their core values.

It is precisely businesses like Urban Legends Hair Studio, and visionary entrepreneurs like Mr. Aldo Brown, that strengthen the very fabric of our neighborhoods. They are not merely economic entities; they are vital social anchors, creating local jobs, fostering economic stability, and contributing significantly to the cultural richness and overall vitality of the South Side.

Their enduring presence and positive impact resonate deeply within the lives of countless families and individuals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking Mr. Brown and the Urban Legends Hair Studio for their contributions to the Southside of Chicago.

### HONORING THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, GENERAL LAFAYETTE CHAPTER

#### HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2025*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the honor of joining the General Lafayette

Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution as they placed an America 250 marker at Zion Methodist Church, paying tribute to the American Revolution patriots who are buried there. The General Lafayette Chapter is a part of the New Jersey State Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, an incredible organization whose members all share a unique and special bond—each can trace their ancestry to a hero of the American Revolutionary War. They are passionate about preserving the legacy of their ancestors who put everything on the line to establish our free country in the new world. The members of General Lafayette honor this sacrifice by volunteering their time through service, historic preservation, and unwavering patriotism. Their work even goes beyond remembering the past. They support our veterans and active-duty military through volunteer service and financial support, and they even craft award-winning quilts as a gesture of gratitude. These women ensure that the legacy of our country's first veterans lives on by preserving historic documents, maintaining the Isaac Watson State House, and placing markers at sites of historical meaning. I thank these incredible women, for all the work they have done for New Jersey veterans and veterans everywhere. God bless the General Lafayette Daughters of the American Revolution and God bless our United States of America.

### RECOGNIZING RYAN WRENFROW

#### HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2025*

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ryan Wrenfrow for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Ryan has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Ryan, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Ryan's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Oberon Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Ryan Wrenfrow on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

### RECOGNIZING REBECCA SEILS

#### HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Rebecca Seils has made through her work

with the Pasco County Human Services Team. The Pasco County Human Services Team has proven itself to be a cornerstone of resilience, innovation, and unwavering commitment to the community. Amidst the devastating impacts of Hurricanes Helene and Milton, they emerged as an indispensable force, transforming challenges into triumphs and ensuring no resident was left behind. The team managed and helped coordinate efforts for shelters that housed 485 residents. When Hurricane Milton struck shortly thereafter, the team rose to even greater heights, coordinating shelters for 5,800 individuals and 1,315 animals—an extraordinary feat of operational precision and compassion. Despite personal hardships, including one case manager losing her home while another lost her rental property, the team prioritized the welfare of the community, working tirelessly to ensure safety and stability for all. Post-storm, the team was responsible for helping shelter residents whose homes were no longer safe, find appropriate alternatives for housing. Their dedication shone through in rapid response efforts. In the days immediately following Hurricane Helene, 49 residents received critical assessments and essential resources. After Hurricane Milton, they worked with 225 displaced individuals who remained in shelters, demonstrating their unparalleled ability to adapt and respond under pressure. The team leveraged the Human Services Needs app to streamline disaster case management, supporting 1,351 residents. Their follow-up system, in partnership with other agencies, ensured personalized service for every individual. This innovative approach epitomized their ability to harness technology and partnerships for meaningful impact. Beyond immediate relief, the team worked with individuals and families who would require long-term recovery efforts. For approximately 150 permanently displaced residents, they implemented a housing eligibility process, with the intent of ensuring fair and transparent allocation of resources. By securing placements at facilities like Pasco Hope, the team supported individuals and families along a pathway to rebuild their lives. Between September 28 and October 18, 2024, the team managed an overwhelming volume of calls—1,194 through their direct line and another 1,214 through work phones. Yet every call was met with care, professionalism, and actionable solutions, reflecting the team's deep commitment to being a lifeline for the community. The Pasco County Human Services Team exemplifies what it means to serve with excellence, compassion, and innovation. Their remarkable achievements during Hurricanes Helene and Milton, coupled with their dedication to long-term recovery and cutting-edge approaches to disaster management, have left an indelible mark on Pasco County.

It is clear Rebecca Seils has made a profoundly positive impact on our community through her work as part of the Pasco County Human Services Team, and I am grateful for her service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

MIRA CAHALANE NAMED OHIO'S  
13TH DISTRICT CHAMPION OF  
THE WEEK

**HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2025*

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Mira Cahalane, who recently won best actress at the 10th annual Dazzle Awards, as this week's Champion of the Week for Ohio's 13th Congressional District.

The Dazzle Awards honors high school musical theater students and departments in Northeast Ohio for their outstanding performances and productions.

At the awards, Mira received the best actress award for her phenomenal performance of Hermes in "Hadestown: Teen Edition" at Hudson High School and was awarded a \$2,000 scholarship.

As a result of her win, this June, Mira will be representing Northeast Ohio in the National High School Musical Theater Awards, also known as the Jimmy Awards, held in New York.

At the Jimmy Awards, Mira will join top high school musical theater students across the country to compete and showcase her extraordinary talent on a national stage.

Again, I want to congratulate Mira Cahalane for her exceptional win and on being named this week's Champion of the Week. I wish her the best of luck as she prepares to compete in the Jimmy Awards, and know she will represent Northeast Ohio well.

HONORING DEVIN SOFFY, EAGLE  
SCOUT

**HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2025*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, recently, I had the honor of attending Devin Soffy's Eagle Scout Court of Honor after his 10 great years of service through the Boy Scouts. Devin started his journey when he was in the second grade and since that time he has achieved an impressive 47 merit badges. His badges are in a variety of different areas including first aid, search and rescue, personal fitness, and life-saving, showing how well-rounded of a young man he is. He has dreamed of being a doctor since he was a little boy, and many of the skills he has learned through scouting will help him on that journey. Devin has already taken the next step toward that dream by being accepted into the prestigious pre-medicine program at Baylor University where he will pursue a degree in Biology.

Beyond scouting and academics, Devin gives back to his community by volunteering at the local EMS station and as a swim instructor for young children. I congratulate Devin on this incredible achievement. I know he has a bright future ahead, and I look forward to seeing all that he will accomplish. God bless Devin and God bless our United States of America.

RECOGNIZING TOMMY SEILER

**HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2025*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tommy Seiler for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Tommy has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Tommy, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Tommy's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Three Creeks K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Tommy Seiler on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT O'BRIEN

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Robert "Bob" O'Brien has made through his volunteerism at Cypress Elementary School. Bob's talents and craft as a Master Gardener are enjoyed by students and appreciated by staff. Affectionately called Gardener Bob, he brings the art of growing one's own fruits and vegetables to the Cypress Elementary Cubs. As part of the school's 4th Grade Science Lessons, students learn the farm-to-table concept by preparing the soil, planting seeds, nurturing the seedlings into mature plants, harvesting and finally preparing and consuming fresh produce. They learn the life cycle of plants and the value of working for your food. In addition to leading students, Bob recruits and manages his Garden Crew; a handful of additional dedicated volunteers that are passionate about the art of gardening and promoting fresh and healthy eating. Where Bob primarily works with 4th grade students, all students in the school benefit from his efforts. Located by our playground, all students watch the progress of the plants as they grow, building excitement for when it is their turn to garden. He has helped instill a love of learning in students as look forward to Garden Day when it is their turn to get their hands dirty and learn.

It is clear Robert "Bob" O'Brien has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

HONORING 8TIV MULTIMEDIA  
LABS AND 247HH: INNOVATION  
AND CULTURAL IMPACT IN CHI-  
CAGO

**HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2025*

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate two dynamic and impactful creative forces based in our district, operating from 1727 S. Indiana, Chicago: 8tiv Multimedia Labs and its partner company, 247HH. Both were founded by visionary leaders, Ranadeb Choudhury and Osvaldo "Tito" Garcia, who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to innovation, authentic storytelling, and cultural engagement.

8tivLabs, founded in 2010, is a truly remarkable, Emmy Award-winning creative powerhouse. This agency is dedicated to empowering brands to become authentic trendsetters and cultural cocreators. They achieve this by blending strategic foresight, creative bravely and data-driven insights to craft unforgettable experiences and groundbreaking content productions. At its core, 8tivLabs thrives on collaboration, transforming bold ideas into groundbreaking realities by blending skilled craftsmanship with strategic insight that directly impacts the community. Their purpose is clear: to craft transformative experiences that push boundaries and connect with audiences on a profound level.

Complementing this, 247HH, founded in 2005, stands as a premier digital platform entirely dedicated to celebrating hip-hop culture. Through exclusive interviews, compelling behind-the-scenes content, and original video series, 247HH provides an intimate look into the lives and journeys of urban culture's most compelling voices, from mainstream icons to underground artists. Their programming, including the impactful "Culture Builders" series, spotlights influential figures across politics, media, sport, fashion, tech, and music, pushing the culture forward with a steadfast commitment to authenticity.

The purpose of 247HH is to amplify and celebrate hip-hop culture, providing a vital platform for its diverse narratives.

Together, 8tiv Multimedia Labs and 247HH, under the leadership of Mr. Choudhury and Mr. Garcia, exemplify the very best of Chicago's creative and entrepreneurial spirit. They are not only driving economic growth and creating jobs but are also profoundly shaping cultural narratives and empowering voices that resonate globally.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating and thanking Ranadeb Choudhury, Osvaldo "Tito" Garcia, and their entire teams at 8tiv Multimedia Labs and 247HH for their innovative contributions. Their dedication to cultural stewardship builds legacies that will inspire future generations of creatives and cultural leaders.