

played a crucial role, symbolizes the incredible potential that flourishes when a community invests in its youth and its institutions.

Dillion Fountain, along with his teammates, demonstrated exceptional skill, discipline, and teamwork throughout their season, navigating challenges and competing at the highest level. His hard work and dedication were integral to the team's success, culminating in this well-deserved championship that brings immense pride and joy to his school, family, and the entire community.

I also extend my deepest gratitude to Head Coach Jamaal Gill, II, whose visionary leadership and guidance steered the team to this historic victory, and to Assistant Coaches Kimani Harris, Pierre Adams, and Nathan Townsen, Jr., whose mentorship was vital to the players' development.

Mr. Speaker, Dillion Fountain's contribution to the Dyett Eagles' journey from near closure to state champions is an inspiring narrative for us all. It underscores the critical importance of supporting our public schools and investing in programs that empower young people to achieve their fullest potential. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dillion Fountain and the entire Dyett High School boys' basketball team on their momentous achievement and honoring them for the inspiration they provide to communities across our Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE DACOR BACON
HOUSE BICENTENNIAL DAY

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize June 10th as the DACOR Bacon House Bicentennial Day. With its rich history, the DACOR Bacon House stands as a powerful symbol of our Nation's commitment to diplomacy and the rule of law.

The House was built on land previously owned by David Burnes, a Revolutionary War veteran whose other real estate holdings were used for key national landmarks, including the White House and National Mall.

The House's site was acquired in 1815 by Tobias Lear V, George Washington's personal secretary and subsequent U.S. Consul General to Algiers. He was also the only person to hear President Washington's final words. "Tis well."

The current structure was completed in 1825 by Tench Ringgold, U.S. Marshal and Keeper of the Keys to the Capitol, using enslaved labor. Ringgold helped lead President James Madison and several members of his Cabinet to safety during the British burning of the White House years earlier during the War of 1812.

Former Maryland Governor Samuel Sprigg purchased the property for his daughter and nephew William Thomas Carroll, Clerk of the Supreme Court and member of the prominent Carroll family. William Thomas Carroll provided President Abraham Lincoln with the Bible that was used for his first inauguration, which has since become known as the "Lincoln Bible."

The House flourished under the ownership of the Carroll Family, during which time they entertained numerous dignitaries.

The House later served as the official residence of numerous prominent foreign and domestic figures in the United States, including Russian Imperial Minister Nikolai Shishkin from 1875 to 1878 while he was dispatched to Washington, D.C. as his country's top diplomatic representative to the United States. Chief Justice Melville Fuller and his family resided at the House from 1896 to 1910, during which time the House remained a fixture in Washington, D.C. high society and hosted President Grover Cleveland, President Theodore Roosevelt, and Secretary of War William Howard Taft. Illinois Senator Medill McCormick and his wife, the future Congresswoman Ruth Hanna McCormick, resided in the House during the 1920's when they entertained lawmakers and their spouses.

In 1973, the House was added to the National Register of Historic Places, paying homage to its nearly 150 years of contributions to American history and society. Virginia Murray Bacon then established the Bacon House Foundation which worked hand in hand with the Diplomatic and Consular Officers, Retired (DACOR) Education and Welfare Foundation to establish the DACOR Bacon House Foundation which was tasked with caring for the historic House in perpetuity.

On May 23, 1986, Secretary of State George P. Shultz attended the dedication ceremony marking the DACOR Bacon House Foundation's new ownership of the building and charged those present to "protect and advance the interests and ideals of America."

Since such time the DACOR Bacon House has served as the headquarters of DACOR, a premier organization of foreign affairs professionals, whose members include ambassadors, Foreign Service Officers, military and intelligence officials, political appointees from both major parties, Members of Congress and their staffs, Peace Corps and International Monetary Fund officials, global business leaders, and other professionals dedicated to promoting American interests and diplomatic relations.

Through DACOR and the DACOR Bacon House Foundation, which host regular educational discussions, policy programs, leadership development opportunities, and musical events, the House continues to be a vibrant center of cultural and diplomatic exchange, a museum of American life, and the home of the foreign affairs community.

Two hundred years after its construction, the DACOR Bacon House remains a pillar of strength in the President's Neighborhood, pays tribute to the legacy of its prior owners, enslaved workers, and distinguished guests, and serves as a unique prism for understanding the history of both the District of Columbia and the United States of America.

I therefore ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the historic importance of the DACOR Bacon House to the history of American diplomacy, the Supreme Court, and Congress. I also wish to recognize both the DACOR Bacon House Foundation and the Diplomatic and Consular Officers, Retired (DACOR) organization for their decades-long efforts to preserve this unique gem located in the heart of our Nation's Capital.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF BOB BAKER

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize South Metro Fire Department Chief Bob Baker for his leadership and service over the past 40 years.

Bob Baker has served with South Metro Fire Rescue as the Chief for the last ten years. Last summer, when the Quarry fire broke across the Front Range, Chief Baker helped coordinate the emergency response to keep our community safe. Under his leadership, the South Metro Fire Department was awarded Class 1 status by the Insurance Service Office for its outstanding protection of residents, and was one of only thirteen Class 1 departments that serve over 500,000 constituents. Throughout his service, Chief Baker has championed the physical and mental well-being of his team through workplace wellness programs, and we are incredibly grateful for his hard work.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, I am honored to congratulate Chief Bob Baker on his retirement.

HONORING DIVONTE LUMPKIN OF
DYETT HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate an extraordinary achievement by a remarkable individual from my district, Divonte Lumpkin, a dedicated Assistant Coach for the Walter H. Dyett High School for the Arts boys' basketball team, the Eagles. This team achieved a historic victory, winning the 2024–2025 Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Class 2A State Championship with a decisive 52–41 win over Althoff Catholic High School on March 15, 2025.

This championship is more than just a win on the court; it is a profound testament to the resilience, determination, and unity of the Dyett High School community and the vibrant Bronzeville neighborhood. A decade ago, Dyett faced the threat of closure, but through powerful community advocacy and unwavering commitment, its doors remained open. Today, the Eagles' triumph, shaped significantly by the guidance and mentorship of coaches like Divonte Lumpkin, symbolizes the incredible potential that flourishes when a community invests in its youth and its institutions.

Assistant Coach Divonte Lumpkin, alongside Head Coach Jamaal Gill, II, provided invaluable leadership, strategic insight, and unwavering support throughout the season. His dedication to developing these young athletes, both on and off the court, was instrumental in fostering the skill, discipline, and teamwork that led to this historic victory. His hard work and commitment were integral to the team's success, culminating in this well-deserved championship that brings immense pride and joy to the school, the players, their families, and the entire community.

Mr. Speaker, Divonte Lumpkin's contribution to the Dyett Eagles' journey from near closure

to state champions is an inspiring narrative for us all. It underscores the critical importance of dedicated educators and mentors in supporting our public schools and empowering young people to achieve their fullest potential. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Assistant Coach Ron Thomas and the entire Dyett High School boys' basketball team on their momentous achievement and a honoring them for the inspiration they provide to communities across our Nation.

HONORING THE LOUDOUN
APPALACHIAN TRAIL FESTIVAL

HON. SUHAS SUBRAMANYAM

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Sixth Annual Loudoun Appalachian Trail Festival hosted in Hillsboro, Virginia on June 7, 2025.

The Appalachian Trail is one of the most famous trails in the world, covering over 2,190 miles of land across the United States and attracting over three million visitors each year. The trail traverses Western Loudoun County for thirty miles next to the Shenandoah Valley, offering our community the opportunity to hike, walk, and explore nature.

The trail is maintained by the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, and the thousands of volunteers who work every day to care for the trail and ensure it remains accessible for visitors.

The Loudoun Appalachian Trail Festival is a time to come together and celebrate the trail, outdoor recreation, and the joy of hiking. As a dad of two young girls, I want to make sure we preserve the parks and trails of America so that future generations can continue to enjoy the great outdoors.

I thank the organizers and sponsors of the Loudoun Appalachian Trail Festival for hosting this wonderful event.

CERTIFICATE OF CONGRESSIONAL
RECOGNITION PROCLAMATION
PRESENTED TO APOSTLE DR.
DANA CARSON IN HONOR OF 40
YEARS OF MINISTRY

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise. I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation recognizing Dr. Dana Carson for 40 years of service:

Whereas, Apostle Dr. Dana Carson hails from Chicago, Illinois, and is the Founder & Senior Pastor of the Reflections of Christ's Kingdom World Outreach International (R.O.C.K.) church in Houston, Texas, serving ministry for 40 years full-time through Executive and Pastoral leadership roles; and

Whereas, Apostle Dr. Dana Carson is a testament to resilience, perseverance, and dedication, overcoming adversity as a high school dropout by pursuing higher education and earning three doctoral degrees from Regent University, Logos University, and Bos-

ton University Graduate School of Theology, along with four master's degrees, as well as several executive certifications. He is the founder and chancellor of the Kingdom Bible University and Kingdom Theological Seminary; and

Whereas, Apostle Dr. Dana Carson is a globally renowned speaker, scholar, author, and musical artist featured on broadcast television networks, releasing more than 260 books, devotional guides, as well as curricula; and through his music, delivering a powerful message of hope and resilience; and

Whereas, Apostle Dr. Dana Carson was recognized by President Barak Obama and was bestowed the Lifetime Achievement Call to Service Award, was honored as one of the Top 50 influential Leaders Worldwide in Pentecostalism and he is an active member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that, on behalf of the constituents of the Ninth Congressional District of Texas, I am proud to salute Apostle Dr. Dana Carson for his 40 years of dedicated service to enriching the lives of his family, congregation, our Nation, and the globe. Best wishes on this momentous occasion.

RECOGNIZING JOHN CURTIS

HON. BRITANNY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Curtis for his promotion to Chief of the South Metro Fire Department.

Deputy Chief John Curtis has served the South Metro Fire Department for over twenty years. In his previous position, John oversaw Emergency Medical Services, dispatch, fleet services, and special operations. His educational background in organizational leadership, along with his extensive on the job experience, has separated him from the other 76 applicants. Our community is fortunate to have an incoming Chief with the years of experience and education that John brings to this role.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate John Curtis on his promotion to Chief of South Metro Fire Rescue. We thank him for his continued commitment to our community.

HONORING JAMAL GILL, II OF
DYETT HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate an extraordinary achievement by a remarkable individual from my district, Jamal Gill, II, a dedicated Assistant Coach for the Walter H. Dyett High School for the Arts boys' basketball team, the Eagles. This team achieved a historic victory, winning the 2024–2025 Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Class 2A State Championship with a decisive 52–41 win over Althoff Catholic High School on March 15, 2025.

This championship is more than just a win on the court; it is a profound testament to the

resilience, determination, and unity of the Dyett High School community and the vibrant Bronzeville neighborhood. A decade ago, Dyett faced the threat of closure, but through powerful community advocacy and unwavering commitment, its doors remained open. Today, the Eagles' triumph, shaped significantly by the guidance and mentorship of coaches like Jamal Gill, II, symbolizes the incredible potential that flourishes when a community invests in its youth and its institutions.

Assistant Coach Jamal Gill, II, alongside Head Coach Jamaal Gill, provided invaluable leadership, strategic insight, and unwavering support throughout the season. His dedication to developing these young athletes, both on and off the court, was instrumental in fostering the skill, discipline, and teamwork that led to this historic victory. His hard work and commitment were integral to the team's success, culminating in this well-deserved championship that brings immense pride and joy to the school, the players, their families, and the entire community.

Mr. Speaker, Jamal Gill, II's contribution to the Dyett journey from near closure to state champions is an inspiring narrative for us all. It underscores the critical importance of dedicated educators and mentors in supporting our public schools and empowering young people to achieve their fullest potential. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Assistant Coach Jamal Gill, II and the entire Dyett High School boys' basketball team on their momentous achievement and honoring them for the inspiration they provide to communities across our Nation.

HONORING 75 YEARS OF
MANCHESTER VAMC

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 75th anniversary of the VA Medical Center in Manchester, New Hampshire and in celebration of 75 years of unwavering commitment to veteran health care.

At the end of World War I, citizens of New Hampshire began advocating for a local veterans hospital in order to properly honor Granite Staters who bravely served their country. After an extensive and hard-fought campaign that made it all the way to Congress, the hospital was granted approval and opened its doors on July 2, 1950.

For 75 years, the Manchester VA has provided compassionate care to countless veterans and their families. From physical therapy to mental health care, the Manchester VA's comprehensive services help many veterans to live happy and healthy lives. The dedicated VA staff create a supportive and encouraging environment where veterans feel empowered to seek the medical help they need.

Guided by the needs of veterans and their families, the Manchester VA remains committed to holistic treatment. The Manchester VA's research program is internationally recognized for the study and treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other serious mental health challenges. A renowned teaching hospital, the Manchester VA actively