

trains the next generation of caregivers to ensure that their important work continues for years to come.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to congratulate the Manchester VA on 75 years of devoted service to veterans and their families. We are grateful for your commitment to our community's veterans and I look forward to continuing to support this vital work.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
BARBARA LEONARD HAYES

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mrs. Barbara Leonard Hayes of Carrollton, Texas, who peacefully passed away on April 6, 2025.

Barbara was born on July 8, 1937, in Tom, Oklahoma and was adopted by John and Lena Noll Leonard. She attended Durant High School and graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1958, where she earned her bachelor's degree in education. Barbara began her career as a Flight Attendant for American Airlines out of Chicago, where she was recognized in the World Book Encyclopedia for her unique, vintage title of "Airline Stewardess." Soon after, she moved to Sherman to begin teaching elementary education at Sherman ISD. On June 11, 1960, Barbara married the love of her life, Stanley Joe Hayes, in Durant, Oklahoma. Together, they raised two children and have many more grandchildren.

In addition to her critical work as an educator, Barbara was involved in many community initiatives throughout North Texas. She served as the PTA President at Wakefield Elementary, Cub Scout leader and Den Mother, and a member of many civic and philanthropic organizations. Barbara was also very passionate about rescuing animals, traveling, and most importantly, trusting God. She was a devoted woman of faith and a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Sherman, now the Covenant Presbyterian Church. The kindness, joy, and warmth that Barbara brought with her presence will always be remembered by her loved ones.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capitol in recognition of Barbara's life and contributions to North Texas. She will be dearly missed by her friends, family, and all who knew her.

HONORING NATHAN TOWNSEN 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, Nathan Townsen, 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 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 Nathan Townsen, symbolizes the incredible potential that flourishes when a community invests in its youth and its institutions.

Assistant Coach Nathan Townsen, 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, Nathan Townsen'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 Nathan Townsen 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 GOLDEN
POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Golden Police Department of Golden, Colorado, for serving and protecting our community.

We are all grateful to the Department and Chief of Police Joe Harvey, as they strive to maintain a culture of positive public engagement, equity, and compassion for all. Founded in 1874, the department has a long history of dedicated officers working to build public trust through accountability and equitable policing.

National Police Week offers an opportunity to honor law enforcement and pay tribute to those who gave their lives serving their communities. This week, we honor Officer Evan Dunn, who was a member of the Golden Police Department, who tragically passed away in the line of duty in November 2024. Officer Dunn joined the Department after serving as an Army Aviator and Black Hawk pilot in the Missouri and Colorado Army National Guard. As a soldier, an officer, and a devoted husband, Officer Dunn was a servant in every aspect of his life. His legacy of kindness, dedication, and service to our community and our country will not be forgotten.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to thank the Golden Police Department for their devotion to public service in the line of duty.

HONORING GREG BIFFLE AND
RECOGNIZING HIM FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HURRICANE
HELENE RECOVERY EFFORT

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize North Carolina native and NASCAR legend, Greg Biffle, for his courageous and selfless contributions to the Hurricane Helene recovery effort.

In the wake of the chaos and destruction brought about by Hurricane Helene, Mr. Biffle utilized his personal helicopter and piloting skills to assist in emergency rescue efforts. Without hesitation, Mr. Biffle put himself in harm's way by flying into dangerous and unpredictable areas of North Carolina to evacuate stranded individuals, deliver supplies, and support first responders. Mr. Biffle's decisive actions directly contributed to relief efforts and brought aid to those in need.

It is my honor to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Greg Biffle for risking his personal safety to help those in need. In a time of great divide, Mr. Biffle's actions are a reminder of the unwavering American spirit that exists throughout the great state of North Carolina, and the country.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Mr. Greg Biffle for his selfless actions in the wake of Hurricane Helene.

HONORING RON THOMAS 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, Ron Thomas, 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 Ron Thomas, symbolizes the incredible potential that flourishes when a community invests in its youth and its institutions.

Assistant Coach Ron Thomas, 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, Ron Thomas' 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 honoring them for the inspiration they provide to communities across our Nation.

HONORING SORAYDA SANTOS

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Sorayda Santos as California's 52nd Congressional District Constituent of the Month for January 2025.

Sorayda is the co-chair of the nationally recognized Hermanitas Program at MANA de San Diego, which empowers Latina middle and high school students to reach their highest potential. This program pairs each student with a dedicated mentor to help guide them, inspire them, and provide them with the support they need to succeed.

During her three years as co-chair of the Hermanitas Program, Sorayda has increased the cohort size, improved seminar offerings, and built lasting partnerships with community organizations. Sorayda has also led efforts to bring a new project management seminar to the program, giving students a valuable, hands-on learning experience that will benefit them for years to come.

In addition to leading the Hermanitas Program, Sorayda currently mentors an eighth-grade student, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to giving back.

Sorayda is an exceptional leader and mentor who works hard every day to inspire the next generation of Latinas to dream big and achieve greatness. I can't think of a better person to have recognized during National Mentorship Month.

RECOGNIZING DR. KIARA KUENZLER

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Kiara Kuenzler of Denver, Colorado for being named the Nexstar 2025 Remarkable Woman of Denver.

During her 7-year tenure as President and CEO, Dr. Kuenzler positioned the Jefferson Center for Mental Health as a leading community provider by expanding access to services and growing the Center's workforce across the region. Dr. Kuenzler recognized the need to bring mental health services to people where they were at, so she created partnerships with schools, medical practices, law enforcement, and others to facilitate more than 150 outposts for substance use disorder care. She grew the Center's workforce by over 300 employees and improved access to treatment for over 25,000 Coloradans in the Front Range to ensure those in rural communities could access care.

Dr. Kuenzler earned this honor because of her dedication to expanding mental health care services and her passion for helping people overcome obstacles in their lives. She'll be remembered as an important part of the Jefferson Center's legacy.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Dr. Kiara Kuenzler for being recognized as the "2025 Remarkable Woman of Denver."

HONORING AHMARI TAYLOR 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 young man from my district, Ahmari Taylor, a vital member of 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, in which Ahmari Taylor played a crucial role, symbolizes the incredible potential that flourishes when a community invests in its youth and its institutions.

Ahmari Taylor, 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, 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, Ahmari Taylor'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 Ahmari Taylor 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 ALEX WILLIS

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alex Willis of Leadville, Colorado for winning the USA Triathlon Winter National Championships in Breckenridge, Colorado.

Alex is a third-generation ultra-triathlete and a coach who competes in snowshoeing, trail running, cycling, Nordic skiing, and more. His hard work paid off recently when he broke the tape with a time of 1:28:31 at the USA Triathlon Winter National Championships earning him a spot in the World Championships to be held in Pontevedra, Spain next year. We are incredibly proud that he'll represent the United States at this global event.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Alex Willis for his win at the 2025 Winter Triathlon National Championships, and join his friends and family in rooting for his success at the World Championships.

HONORING DARRELL BULLOCK 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, Darrell Bullock, 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 Darrell Bullock, symbolizes the incredible potential that flourishes when a community invests in its youth and its institutions.

Assistant Coach Darrell Bullock, alongside Head Coach Jamaal Gill, II, provided invaluable leadership, strategic insight, and unwavering support throughout the season. His dedication to developing these young athletes,