

Beverly is known as “Mrs. Cool”. Why? Because she teaches kids that it is cool to sing together in harmony.

Beverly is a former actress, broadcaster, and talent agent in Hollywood. She is married to KidSingers’ founder and director, Paul McNeff, and they live in Anaheim with their son, Jeffrey.

I was honored to name her as one of my 2025 Women of the Year. I know Beverly will keep up the good work.

HONORING ANA A. GONZALEZ

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor a mother and community leader who calls California’s 46th District her home.

She serves as district director to Senator Tom Umberg where she advocates for 1 million constituents, making sure that their voices are heard in Sacramento.

Ana received her bachelor’s degree in legal studies from Chapman University and is a graduate of HOPE. Ana is also the mother of Victoria and Cyrus.

I was honored to honor her by naming her as one of my 2025 Women of the Year.

HONORING ALICIA GARCIA

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Alicia Garcia, a mother and community leader who embodies the American Dream.

Alicia was born in 1961 in Durango, Mexico, and made the brave decision to immigrate to the United States in search of the American Dream.

In the early 1990s, Alicia earned her certification as a certified nurse assistant.

Today, 30 years later, Alicia continues to serve her community at French Park Care Center, where her impact is felt by her patients, her colleagues, and the families she touches and supports on an everyday basis. I was honored to name her as one of my 2025 Women of the Year.

#### RECOGNIZING TEXAS TECH GIRLS’ SOFTBALL TEAM

(Mr. ARRINGTON of Texas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a group of remarkable young women from the plains of West Texas who are making history on the national stage, our Texas Tech Lady Raiders’ softball team.

These athletes have battled all season long, with an impressive drive, determination, and an unmistakable West Texas will to win that has taken them from the first Big 12 Championship in program history and a chance this week to win the College World Series.

Coach Glasco and his Lady Raiders represent the best of West Texas values, hardworking, humble, and pure class on and off the field.

All of West Texas and all of Red Raider Nation are cheering on the Lady Raiders, our fearless champions, as they fight for the scarlet and the black.

The Lady Raiders need to go out there tonight, all gas and no brakes, and beat those Texas Longhorns and then turn around and beat them again and bring that championship trophy home to Lubbock, Texas, where it belongs.

Guns up and go West Texas.

#### HONORING CHARLES B. RANGEL

(Mr. ESPAILLAT of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of the “Lion of Lenox Avenue”, Congressman Charles B. Rangel. He was a friend, a mentor, and a champion for Harlem, New York City, and our Nation.

Now, as most of us know, Charles B. Rangel was a titan, and my predecessor, who forged countless programs, trade agreements, and new initiatives during his 46 years in the U.S. House of Representatives. He became the urban voice, the voice of urban America. When America needed a compass, needed a direction for its urban cities, it was Charles B. Rangel that spoke truth to power and led the Nation forward.

He was born in Harlem in the summer of 1930, right on the heels of the Great Depression, which cloaked the country in a blanket of poverty that spared no community.

After dropping out of high school, Charles B. Rangel joined the U.S. Army’s 503rd Field Artillery Battalion within the 2nd Infantry Division where he earned a Bronze Star with Valor and a Purple Heart after successfully leading his men through a mountain pass under attack by the Chinese army.

After his return to the country, Rangel received his bachelor’s degree from NYU and his law degree from St. John’s University. He was appointed Assistant U.S. District Attorney in the Southern District of New York by no other than the U.S. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy.

In 1970, he ascended to the House of Representatives where he and 12 other trailblazers formally founded the Congressional Black Caucus which slowly became the conscience of this House of Representatives, the conscience, of course, of Congress.

He ultimately climbed to become the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, where he worked on legislation that would uplift working-class and middle-class families. This included the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, the Earned Income Tax Credit, and Empowerment Zones.

His international impact was monumental. He forged trade agreements in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. He helped bring independence and economic prosperity across the globe.

Informed by his military service, he became a lifelong champion for veterans, particularly those who faced discrimination upon their return to our Nation.

Charles B. Rangel was a giant of a man. He was a legendary leader, not

just for Harlem but for the rest of urban America. He held no grudge. He was a true gentleman, and one that chose to help everybody in the community.

This week, our city will stop, our Nation will stop in silence to honor the life and legacy of the Lion of Lenox Avenue, Congressman Charles B. Rangel. May he rest in peace. May he rest in power.

#### HONORING JOHN THRASHER

(Mr. PATRONIS of Florida was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. PATRONIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to honor a true statesman, a patriot, and a proud son of the State of Florida, Speaker John Thrasher.

Speaker Thrasher’s story is a kind that people don’t see anymore. He was a U.S. Army veteran who served in Vietnam, a lawyer, a leader, and someone who never forgot where he came from. He rose from humble beginnings to become one of the most influential public servants the State of Florida has ever known.

As speaker of the Florida House, he got our State through challenging times with courage and principle. As a State senator, he fought for Florida’s families, stood up for what was right, even when it wasn’t easy. As president of Florida State University, he poured his heart into shaping the lives of young people, lifting up the next generation with the same integrity and drive that defined his own life.

To those who knew Speaker Thrasher, it was more than a resume. When he walked into a room, he had room presence. He was respected. He was loyal, tough as nails when he had to be, but always with a servant’s heart.

I was proud to call him a friend, a mentor. I admired the way he led with grace under pressure and with an unshakeable love for Florida and our country.

This Congress and the State of Florida mourns with his wife, Jean; their children; their grandchildren; and we thank them for sharing their John with us.

He made our State stronger, and Florida will carry forward the values that he lived by.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF DAR AND SAR

Mr. PATRONIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to our Nation’s 250th anniversary of two distinguished societies that are crucial to our many activities in Florida which celebrate our founding.

The national, State, and local members of both the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution are direct blood descendants of patriots who fought and aided our American Revolution or held political or civil positions in our very first government.

Back at home in the district, the Emerald Coast Chapter of the Sons of the

American Revolution and the Choctawhatchee Bay Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution have been busy gearing up to honor the great men and women who gave their all to establish our country.

I had the honor to join DAR Regent, Daquiri Champion, and SAR President, the Honorable Graham Fountain, at the Fort Walton Chamber of Commerce as they honored the chamber membership with the DAR America 250! Commendation and Medal for their campaign of remembrance of America's War of Independence.

Another upcoming event which highlights the women who served in the war is in the Okaloosa's Women Veterans Day ceremony which will be held at Women Veterans Park on Okaloosa Island.

One of the eight bronze statues in the park pays tribute to Mrs. Margaret Corbin, who fought alongside her husband, who was a Continental Army artillery officer. While assisting her husband in the Battle of Fort Washington, New York, she took over firing the cannon after he was killed by grapeshot fired by British cannon fire. She also received serious injuries of her own to her shoulder, chest, and jaw, but continued loading and firing the weapon.

On July 6, 1779, Congress awarded Margaret a lifelong pension for her Revolutionary War service.

□ 1045

This was also the first time America officially recognized a woman's military service.

I urge all Americans to join the DAR and SAR members in paying special tribute to this incredible woman whose courage, strength, and patriotism rivaled many of her male counterparts.

In April, a member of the SAR Emerald Coast organized a major workday at Old Stewart Cemetery in Laurel Hill, cleaning up the cemetery around the grave of Okaloosa's own Revolutionary War soldier, Private Horne, giving and paying tribute to Private Horne for his service in the founding of the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, as I close, I extend a heartfelt thanks and admiration to those faithful patriots of our American Revolution who fought and died for our great Nation and to their descendants, the members of the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution, who keep our American spirit alive and well today.

#### ADRIANA SMITH

(Ms. PRESSLEY of Massachusetts was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share the story of Adriana Smith.

Adriana Smith was a 30-year-old nurse from Georgia and the mother of a vibrant 5-year-old boy. She started to experience debilitating headaches, and she sought medical care. She was dis-

charged and her pain was dismissed, as is so often the case for Black women in this country and certainly in our healthcare system.

The next morning, Adriana woke up gasping for air and was taken to Emory Hospital, where she was declared brain dead.

There are no words to provide healing for a pain this deep—a dedicated and loving mother, a compassionate nurse, gone at the age of 30.

In the days that followed, Adriana's family and son should have been able to make a solemn, independent decision about what happened next as they celebrated her life; as they mourned this devastating loss; as they pieced their lives back together; and as they began helping their 5-year-old cope with the grief and loss of his precious mother.

Yet, the State of Georgia denied Adriana her bodily autonomy and dignity in death. In the days and weeks that followed, her family found themselves in a desperate battle with Emory Hospital.

The hospital believed that the anti-abortion bill that Georgia enacted in 2022 following the gutting of *Roe v. Wade* tied the hospital's hands and mandated that Adriana's body, her brain-dead body, remain hooked to machines. Mr. Speaker, this was not because there was any chance of survival, she had already transitioned, but because Adriana was 9 weeks pregnant, about a month past a missed period. Adriana's body has been turned into an incubator; an incubator with no medical rationale, no ethical reason, and no compassion.

Mr. Speaker, from the days of enslavement, Black women's bodies have been subjected to medical abuse, assault, and degradation in this country. We are more likely to die in childbirth. We are routinely denied medical care. We are dehumanized. Like in the case of Adriana Smith, our bodies and our dignity are desecrated in death.

This is cruelty. It is the latest episode in a long history of the experimentation and exploitation of Black bodies. I grieve for Adriana's family, for the torture they are experiencing layered with the daily uncertainty that they are navigating as they try to do right by their daughter and lay her to rest peacefully.

Her parents are by her bedside. Her 5-year-old asked: When will Mommy wake up?

Adriana should be here today, her blood clots treated, her voice trusted, and her pain believed. She should be decorating a nursery for her little son with her family and celebrating her son's last day of kindergarten, but Adriana's body lies hooked to machines in a hospital bed as part of an unjust medical experiment for more than 3 months. No family should have to endure this.

None of us are free until all of us are free.

#### REMEMBERING BOB KIERLIN

(Mr. FINSTAD of Minnesota was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. FINSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bob Kierlin, a beloved community member and dedicated public servant who passed away earlier this year at the age of 85.

Born and raised in Winona, Bob was a fixture in the southeastern Minnesota community. He graduated from Coter High School and served in the Peace Corps in Venezuela before going on to represent his neighbors from Winona in the Minnesota State Senate from 1999 to 2007.

As a young man in 1967, Bob and four of his high school friends founded the Fastenal Company when Bob saw a need to get hardware to the construction sites quickly. A new supply chain concept was born.

With Bob's innovation and his leadership, Fastenal quickly grew into a worldwide distributor, employing more than 23,000 employees with locations in all 50 States and 25 countries. Today, Fastenal is a Fortune 500 company and Winona's largest employer.

Bob was much more to his hometown than a CEO, though. His community involvement and generosity to local causes was seemingly limitless, setting an example for us all in how to serve our neighbors in greater need.

I have no doubt that Bob's legacy will live on through the countless lives he impacted, both personally and professionally. He was a renowned business leader, a generous benefactor, and a dedicated public servant. He was also a true friend to a great many of us across southern Minnesota.

He will truly be missed. May he rest in peace.

#### IN HONOR OF CHARLES RANGEL

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Representative Charlie Rangel was a dear friend and mentor of mine. He was very engaged and responsible for writing the Affordable Care Act and getting it passed.

Charlie was a great one.

#### GIVING TRIBUTE TO WHITNEY M. YOUNG MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Whitney M. Young Magnet High School and its administrators, teachers, staff, parents, and especially students.

Whitney M. Young Magnet High School, located in Chicago, Illinois, is a public, 4-year magnet high school known for its academic excellence and selective enrollment. It offers an accelerated program, called the Academic Center, for seventh and eighth graders. Admission is based on entrance exams, standardized tests, and elementary school grades. The school has a strong focus on developing well-rounded individuals with a variety of performing