

every home." There is no denying Islam's intent to dominate Western civilization. Their stated objective is to destroy us from within.

All who serve in this Congress swore to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. This is a time for choosing. Either we defeat the sharia advances in America, or government of the people, by the people, and for the people may indeed perish from the Earth.

RECOGNIZING SHAE PARKS

(Ms. McBRIDE of Delaware was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. McBRIDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shae Parks, a teacher in Milford, Delaware, one of just three teachers in the entire Nation to receive the American Civic Education Teacher Award.

In her classroom, Ms. Parks is teaching young minds more than just facts and dates, but the strength and power of our democracy. This honor recognizes educators who spark curiosity about the Constitution, government, and civic life.

At Milford High School, Ms. Parks is shaping the continued strength of our democracy by preparing her students to enter the world with critical skills of engagement. She describes the importance of civic education as imperative to the future of our democracy and believes "students need to enter the world with the ability and willingness to engage in civic discourse with everyone around them, not just those they agree with," something this Chamber could use more of.

It is through model educators like Ms. Parks that Delaware pushes students to expand both their knowledge of and engagement with the mechanisms of government.

Milford is proud of her. Delaware is proud of her. I am proud to stand here today and lift up this dedicated educator.

Like Ms. Parks, I urge my colleagues to support civic education wherever it is happening because our democracy depends on it.

RECOGNIZING FRANK COVERDALE

Ms. McBRIDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of Kent and Sussex Counties' most committed neighbors, Frank "Fresh" Coverdale.

Fresh has been described as the ultimate ambassador for the Food Bank of Delaware, where he spent 22 years delivering food to working families throughout Delaware.

A native of Harrington, Fresh has been giving back to his community for his whole life and is a friendly face to all that he meets, a trait that has earned him an endearing reputation among his neighbors.

For over two decades, he has been out on Delaware's back roads, delivering more than meals. He is delivering dignity. In a State where one in eight

of our neighbors faces food insecurity, that matters.

Fresh sees the need up close and responds the only way he knows how: with heart, with humor, and a can-do spirit.

Other than feeding his neighbors and connecting with those he serves, Fresh is famously a Philadelphia Eagles fanatic. Pulling up in his truck, people come out of their homes when they hear him because they trust him, and they look forward to the playful banter he brings along. They know that he knows their names, their stories, and their teams. They know he will make sure they leave with enough food for the week and maybe a little extra.

Fresh is the longest serving employee at the Food Bank of Delaware. He is a model for compassion, the kind that strengthens communities, especially when families are stretched thin.

Today and every day, Delaware is better because of Frank Coverdale.

I congratulate Fresh on his years of service, and of course, Go Birds.

CELEBRATING DELAWARE READING ASSIST

Ms. McBRIDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Delaware Reading Assist, which last month was recognized on the world stage, selected as 1 of just 15 organizations worldwide honored by the Library of Congress for successful practices in literacy.

A remarkable achievement for Delaware, Reading Assist is a nonprofit built on a simple but powerful belief: Every child deserves the chance to read. Their AmeriCorps Fellows work every day in our schools, shoulder-to-shoulder with teachers, helping struggling readers build confidence, skills, and joy.

Their CEO said this recognition reflects the trust placed in them by educators, the hard work of their Fellows, and the resilience of the students themselves.

Moreover, Acting Librarian of Congress Newlen said the awardees this year had a particular focus on family and community, something Delawareans know is at the heart of our State's success.

Being 1 of only 15 honorees, alongside programs from States across the country, Kenya, and Scotland, shows that Delaware's approach is an international model.

Today, I am honored to congratulate Reading Assist for proving what is possible when we invest in our children and meet them where they are. That is how we close gaps and how we strengthen literacy and thereby strengthen communities, through investment in our children's potential.

HONORING JACK BILLMAN

(Mr. BAIRD of Indiana was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jack Billman, an invaluable member of our Greencastle community.

Jack has been married to his wife, Joan, for over 50 years, and they have three children and three grandchildren.

Jack and Joan Billman founded the Greencastle Defenders of Liberty in 2009, which brought in many Hoosiers and connected the people of Putnam County with their elected officials at the State and local levels to discuss current issues and solutions. Jack believes that an informed and active citizenry is very necessary to keep America free and productive.

Prior to his extensive community involvement, Jack Billman was an Army veteran, enlisting in the U.S. Army straight out of high school. He also had a career as a commercial pilot.

I am immensely grateful to Jack for his service to our country and the United States Army, as well as his service to and involvement with the community of Putnam County.

HONORING NORMAN VOYLES

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Norman Voyles, Sr., who recently passed away at the age of 87. He led a life that emphasized his love for farming and his outstanding service to his community.

Norman Voyles was a graduate of Martinsville High School in Indiana and served in the Indiana National Guard for 6 years. Norman Voyles also held many roles in local government, further underscoring his commitment to serving his country.

He served as a Morgan County commissioner, and he later took on roles on the Morgan County Soil and Water Conservation District, the Morgan County Farm Bureau Co-op, and as president of the Morgan County Farm Bureau.

Most importantly, Norman was a loving husband and father to three sons. I am praying for the comfort of his family during this difficult time.

May Norman rest in peace.

HONORING WARREN MACY

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Warren Macy, who has been a physician and an active member of the Greencastle, Indiana, community for over 50 years.

He received his bachelor's degree and completed his medical school at Indiana University before opening his own practice in Putnam County.

Last year, he received the 2024 Doc Hollywood Award at the Indiana Rural Health Association annual conference for his outstanding service and care to Hoosiers in rural communities.

Dr. Macy is also a devoted husband to his wife, Connie, and they have three children and two grandchildren.

I thank Dr. Warren Macy for his service to Greencastle and for the invaluable medical care he has provided to our community for decades.

CONGRATULATING YURI KUBO

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Yuri Kubo, a graduate of Purdue University and a native Hoosier who was 1 of just 10 candidates chosen for NASA's latest astronaut class.

Yuri Kubo earned his undergraduate degree in electrical engineering in 2008

and his master's degree in electrical and computer engineering in 2015.

These 10 outstanding astronauts were selected from a group of approximately 8,000 other candidates. Yuri Kubo and the other nine individuals face 2 years of training before they are eligible for future planned missions to the International Space Station and the Moon. NASA is even looking at a mission to Mars.

I congratulate Yuri and the full 2025 astronaut class. They will make Purdue University, Indiana, and the country proud.

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CONGRATULATING MEGAN JOHNSON ON 2026
INDIANA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Megan Johnson, a fourth grade teacher at Central Elementary School in Plainfield, Indiana, who was named the 2026 Indiana Teacher of the Year by the Indiana Department of Education.

Megan Johnson has over 18 years of experience in upper elementary classrooms and is passionate about her students having the foundational literacy skills needed to thrive through project-based learning.

According to the Indiana Secretary of Education, Megan Johnson has made it her mission to improve outcomes for her students, and she prepares her students to succeed far beyond the four walls of her classroom.

Mrs. Johnson has also completed 80 hours of professional development in the science of reading, earning the State's early literacy endorsement.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Megan Johnson on this wonderful achievement, and I thank her for all she does to educate and empower the children in Plainfield.

HONORING HOWARD KOCH

(Mr. CORREA of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a World War II veteran, Korean war veteran, and my neighbor, Howard Koch.

This year, Howard turned 100 years old. I wish a happy birthday to Howard.

Howard grew up in Oakland, California, and spent his childhood traveling in the Sierra Nevada mountains to ski and to learn survival skills. They were skills that he would later use in World War II. He joined the Army's 10th Mountain Division and climbed Riva Ridge, where he attacked German troops hidden deep within Italy's mountains.

He was promoted to first lieutenant at just 20 years old.

After World War II, he returned home to California and earned his degree at UC Berkeley.

Howard Koch is a member of the Greatest Generation.

HONORING MARIA ESPERANZA CASTRO

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 25 years of dedicated service by Maria Esperanza Castro.

Maria studied medicine in Mexico before finding her true passion and calling at the Regional Center of Orange County, where she changed the lives of many families.

She was the voice that families met as they sought support for a loved one with developmental disabilities. For 25 years, she was a guiding advocate and a trusted source of information for these families.

I congratulate Maria on her retirement.

RECOGNIZING EFRAIN SOLIS

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of Santa Ana's finest, Efrain Solis, who is currently performing with the New York Metropolitan Opera.

The son of Mexican immigrants, Efrain grew up learning to sing at Saddleback High School. He attended Chapman University and was the first in his family to obtain a college degree.

Efrain has performed all over the country, and Santa Ana is proud to have one of our own performing on the New York stage.

I congratulate Efrain.

HONORING WILLIAM CHAN

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my neighbor and World War II veteran, Bill Chan.

Bill was born in China and came to the United States as a young student. At 19, he enlisted in the Navy, where he served on the USS *Mississippi* during World War II. According to Bill, he was the only Chinese American on that ship, the USS *Mississippi*.

Bill then retired to Orange County, where he still lives today. Bill, I would say, is a true example of our Greatest Generation: an immigrant willing to put his life on the line for his new country.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RUDY CORDOVA

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Rudy Cordova, a beloved member of our Santa Ana community and my good friend.

Born and raised in Santa Ana, Rudy was a proud graduate of Saddleback High School, and he was a soccer dad. He was my daughter's soccer coach.

Rudy dedicated his life to celebrating Chicano culture through art, food, and more. Under his guidance, the Santa Ana Dia de los Muertos became one of the biggest events in Orange County.

I thank Rudy for all he has done for the city of Santa Ana and for our community. We are going to miss him. Our prayers are with his family.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT
OF ROB MCCARTNEY

(Mr. BACON of Nebraska was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a journalist and a beloved anchorman who has made a significant impact in our district and the region, always striving to remain

professional, balanced, unbiased, and compassionate.

KETV's Rob McCartney is retiring from Nebraska's and Iowa's airwaves after 41 years.

Rob and I have many things in common in our backgrounds. He grew up as an Air Force brat, and I was in the Air Force.

Rob has a strong relationship with Offutt Air Force Base and the 55th Wing, having covered several stories there. I served at Offutt Air Force Base three times and served as the wing commander in the Fightin' 55th.

Finally, both Rob and I married the local girl and have enjoyed many years of marriage.

Before graduating with his B.A. in journalism from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Rob spent his time spinning records at KXSS-FM. After graduation, he served as the farm director and assistant sports director for NTV, followed by nearly 7 years at KOLN and KGIN TV, where he worked as an anchor and reporter.

In 1992, Rob joined KETV, working in the Lincoln bureau before relocating to Omaha in 1995. He then joined the anchor desk in the evenings and led Omaha Crime Stoppers, where he helped to bring some of the area's most wanted fugitives to justice.

In his 33 years at KETV, he has reported on the Nebraska National Guard from Bosnia, interviewed multiple U.S. Presidents and other elected and public officials, and covered two of Nebraska's national championships in football.

Over the years, Rob was dedicated to election coverage, educating voters on issues and candidates to help them make informed decisions. As host of KETV's public affairs show "Chronicle," he would dig deep into the issues that mattered most to voters.

Rob was always on board for breaking news, helping viewers navigate difficult times. He covered the role that Offutt Air Force Base played on 9/11 and, 10 years later, provided an in-depth, behind-the-scenes look at President Bush's visit to STRATCOM on that fateful day.

In December 2007, Rob would once again provide a stable presence to the community when a lone gunman shot and killed eight people and injured five others at Von Maur. From the first day during the afternoon, straight through until 5 a.m. the next morning, and for several days to follow, Rob helped guide the community through that tragedy.

Mr. Speaker, 6 months later, Rob was on the air once again for more than 12 hours because a line of supercell thunderstorms that had formed in southeast Nebraska turned into dozens of tornadoes. One of those turned deadly, hitting a Boy Scout camp near Little Sioux, Iowa, where 4 boys were killed and 48 people were injured.

He also maintained that presence for the community during the 2019 floods, reporting on their impact on Offutt Air Force Base and across the region.

One of his most memorable, award-winning stories was Omaha Police Officer Keith Thompson's yearslong effort