

changed and saved lives. They have lived a life dedicated to God, their ministry, their city, their marriage, and their family.

It is only fitting that Greater Love Tabernacle's 36 years of service are now an indelible part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to serve as a permanent inspiration to us all.

#### HONORING LIFE OF JUDGE LESLIE HARRIS

Ms. PRESSLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of the Honorable Judge Leslie Harris, a father, husband, grandfather, mentor, and champion for justice in Massachusetts.

Raised in Chicago, he journeyed to Boston, where he earned advanced degrees, planted roots, and dedicated his life to public service. In the courtroom, first as a probation officer, then as a public defender, then as the chief of the juvenile division of the Suffolk County DA's Office, Judge Harris inspired generations.

He possessed a fine legal mind and an altruistic heart. He saw every person as worthy of dignity, opportunity, and compassion. He will forever be remembered as a kind titan of a man who showed up for everyone, for his beloved members of the Eliot Church of Roxbury, and for students at Roxbury Community College.

He was there for young children experiencing abuse and neglect. He was there defending Black men viciously targeted and criminalized in the Charles Stuart case. He was there supporting marriage equality to facilitate the first-ever adoption by a gay couple in Massachusetts. He was there for people from all walks of life.

I can feel that he is here with us today. His spirit straightens our back and lifts our chin to motivate us in the pursuit of justice. May he rest in peace and power.

#### REMEMBERING SETTI WARREN

Ms. PRESSLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my dear friend and brother, former Newton Mayor Setti Warren, a trailblazer, the first popularly elected Black mayor in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Setti was a loving son, brother, husband, and father whom I had the privilege of working alongside closely when we were both aides to United States Senator John Kerry. He was always ready with thoughtful counsel, an easy and deep laugh, and kind eyes that twinkled. He radiated life and optimism.

Setti accomplished so much in his short 55 years here with us. He was a dedicated mayor, veteran, and public servant from the White House to Capitol Hill to city hall. As the director of the Harvard Institute of Politics, he led pivotal conversations that stoked our consciousness and reminded us of our shared humanity, all the while inspiring a new generation of public service leaders.

Setti had so much life left to live, milestones to experience, hearts to

touch and lives to change. My heart goes out to his wife, Tassy; and their children, Abigail and John. Know that your Kerry family, your Boston College family, the city of Newton, and your Harvard family mourn alongside you. What a tremendous loss for our country, our Commonwealth, and for humanity. Rest in power, my friend.

#### RECOGNIZING KEN STEWART

(Mr. TAYLOR of Ohio was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ken Stewart.

Ken is a proud resident of Ohio's Second Congressional District and a former firefighter with the Batavia Fire Department. Ken spent over four decades with the department, working his way up from lieutenant to chief.

This past summer, at the age of 85, Ken participated in the 2025 World Police and Fire Games, an Olympic competition specifically for first responders that draws competitors from around the world. Ken excelled in javelin throwing, high jump, and many other track events, ultimately contributing 9 medals to the total of 1,362 brought home by Team USA. Of his nine medals, three were gold and six were silver.

Not only is Ken an accomplished athlete and public servant, but he was my science teacher at Amelia Middle School. I loved having him as a teacher. It is wonderful to see him continue to achieve greatly and inspire others around him.

Ken worked tirelessly to prepare for the games by exercising at his local YMCA every day and allowing the thrill of competition to drive his desire to win. Ken reminds us all how important it is to keep moving and take care of ourselves so we can make the most of life at any age.

Ken has centered his life around athletics, having been a high school track and field official for 47 years and track coach for 60 years in Clermont County. Ken even had the amazing opportunity to officiate the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia. His dedication to improving the lives of young people is admirable.

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Mr. Speaker, coaches and officials play a key role in shaping the attitudes and beliefs of our Nation's youth, and my district is lucky to have many people like Ken to look out for our athletes.

Madam Speaker, after a long and successful career, Ken plans to retire from athletic events. To celebrate his achievements and his dedication to his community, the Village of Batavia is naming July 14 "Ken Stewart Day." I look forward to being in Batavia next year to celebrate. We congratulate Ken. All of southern Ohio is very proud of him.

#### RECOGNIZING BILLY RAY "DADDY-O" MIDKIFF

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Billy Ray "Daddy-

O" Midkiff and his extraordinary service to southern Ohio. Ray began serving as a volunteer firefighter in 1977 with the Wilkesville Volunteer Fire Department, and he became a charter member of the Salem Township Volunteer Fire Department. He has over 50 years of service including several years as fire chief for Salem Township.

Ray's roots in the community run deep, as he has also worked as a dairy farmer and coal miner for the Southern Ohio Coal Company. Ray has received numerous awards such as the National Grange Volunteer Firefighter of the Year and was deemed a Hometown Hero by Modern Woodmen. To this day he is an active fire chief and continues to give back to southern Ohio.

Madam Speaker, America is forever grateful for people like him and the millions of other first responders who put their lives on the line for us every day. All of southern Ohio thanks Ray for his service.

#### CHACO CANYON IS NOT FOR SALE

(Ms. STANSBURY of New Mexico was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. STANSBURY. Madam Speaker, Chaco Canyon is sacred ground. It is the ancestral homeland and living landscape to both Pueblo and Dine people. It is a World Heritage Site, a place of ancient ruins, kivas, and sacred lands as far as the eye can see. It is a place that is a mere 50 miles south of the San Juan River where I was born.

I rise today in solidarity with Tribal leaders from across New Mexico to say that it is time to protect Chaco Canyon and these sacred lands. Before our very eyes, the Trump administration is trying to open these sacred lands to oil and gas drilling that would irrevocably destroy them.

Can my colleagues imagine? This is one of the most sacred sites, not just in New Mexico but in North America. It is a place that Secretary Deb Haaland worked to set aside in 2023 and a place which the New Mexico delegation is seeking to permanently protect.

As Pueblo leaders tell us, Chaco holds the footprints of our ancestors. Countless generations have carried forward their teachings and traditions. As Navajo leaders have said, it is a landscape deeply embedded in our way of life and which protects the living community, youth, elders, and our culture.

Even as Tribal leaders are saying no, this administration is forging ahead to open these lands to desecration of sites that could never be recovered.

Madam Speaker, we call on this administration to stop. These sites are sacred. We call on the American people to join us in this fight. We must protect Chaco Canyon, and Chaco Canyon is not for sale.

#### IRREFUTABLE EVIDENCE

(Mr. COMER of Kentucky was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, I have taken to the floor today to respond to Minority Leader HAKEEM JEFFRIES calling me a "stone-cold liar" during a press conference defending the recent discovery of Democrats' communication with convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

I bring with me something that he and many of his fellow Democrats—Democrats like JAMIE RASKIN, JASMINE CROCKETT, and STACEY PLASKETT—apparently detest, which is a thing called evidence.

Tuesday, I gave a speech on the House floor detailing my House Oversight Committee's good work to date on our Epstein investigation. After all, HAKEEM JEFFRIES, the Democrats in Congress, and their allies in the corporate media have been demanding a full release of the Epstein documents for months, including all the documents from the Epstein estate.

Without hesitation, I subpoenaed all of the Jeffrey Epstein estate documents because I, as well as my Republican colleagues on the House Oversight Committee, want to know what really happened. We want to know what went on and who was involved in these unspeakable crimes. We want justice for the survivors. That is why we are doing this investigation.

The House Oversight Committee obtained over 30,000 pages of documents from the estate. Unlike the Democrats, who only released 10 of those over 30,000 pages of documents, Republicans on the House Oversight Committee released every single document on the website for the American people to see.

Democrats and many in the media were anxiously clutching their pearls in anticipation of potential dirt on President Trump. In the end, after full transparency by the Republicans on the Oversight Committee, there was nothing new about the President's former relationship with Epstein and certainly nothing scandalous. We did find two sitting Democrat Members of Congress had communication with Epstein.

First, it has been highly reported and debated about Congresswoman STACEY PLASKETT texting during an Oversight Committee hearing with Jeffrey Epstein, while trying to conspire with him to hurt or embarrass Donald Trump. According to JAMIE RASKIN, that was okay because Mr. Epstein was her constituent. How embarrassing a rationale is that?

The second communication was this email right here where HAKEEM JEFFRIES' campaign reached out directly to Jeffrey Epstein, soliciting campaign dollars for the "Brooklyn Barack." Now, whereas JAMIE RASKIN explained PLASKETT's communication with Epstein as simply responding to a constituent, HAKEEM JEFFRIES had a very different response when asked about it by the media. He denied its existence. HAKEEM JEFFRIES said COMER is a stone-cold liar. Then he reverted to calling me names for the second week in a row.

Let's read it to make sure. It is to Jeffrey Epstein. That is the real Jeffrey Epstein, not JASMINE CROCKETT's Jeffrey Epstein. This is the real Jeffrey Epstein. It is from HAKEEM JEFFRIES' campaign.

Dear Jeffrey, we are thrilled that we are working with Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, one of the rising stars of the New York delegation, sometimes referred to as "Brooklyn's Barack." Hakeem is committed to electing a Democrat majority in 2014 and is encouraging his friends to participate in the DCCC fundraising dinner with President Obama and Hakeem Jeffries.

It ends with a number for Jeffrey Epstein to call to go to the dinner and "get an opportunity to get to know HAKEEM better."

Here is the evidence. The email speaks for itself. The only stone-cold liar in this debate is HAKEEM JEFFRIES.

Madam Speaker, I ask Mr. Minority Leader to take a deep breath, chill out, stop lying, stop with the juvenile name calling, and own up to the fact that his campaign solicited campaign cash from Jeffrey Epstein.

#### HONORING COURAGE AND SACRIFICE OF AZIZ REZAAEE

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

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the profound courage and sacrifice of a woman whose story embodies the enduring struggle for freedom and human dignity in Iran, a woman known simply and lovingly as Aziz, meaning "dear" or "beloved." Her full name is Aziz Rezaee, and she is a mother of resistance.

Aziz was born Zahra Norowzi in 1929 in Tehran. Like many mothers around the world, she married young, raised a large family, and worked to give her children a better future.

The tides of Iranian history pulled her family into the heart of political repression and terror. Aziz endured a heartbreak that no parent should ever face, which is the loss of nine members of her family: three sons, two daughters, and two sons-in-law. They were all killed across two successive dictatorships that feared the voices of those seeking democracy and basic rights. This happened first under the Shah and later under the clerical regime that replaced him.

Her children's only so-called crime was their involvement in Iran's democratic opposition movement, a movement that dared to say that the people of Iran deserved liberty, justice, and respect for human rights.

During the rule of the Shah, three of Aziz' children were imprisoned and tortured. One was killed in the street by secret police.

Aziz herself was arrested in 1975 and spent more than 3 years in prison. She was tortured. She was flogged. She was hung upside down. She was forced into solitary confinement. Yet, she never broke. The scars on the soles of her

feet remain today, living proof of the cruelty she endured for simply wanting freedom for her people.

Her son, Mehdi, only 19 years old when arrested, refused to bow to the torture inflicted on him. In a rare public trial before foreign journalists, he exposed the brutal acts of the regime and pledged his life to the poor and oppressed in Iran. That defiance cost him his life, but his voice continues to echo.

After the 1979 revolution, the Iranian people hoped for democracy. Instead, a new tyranny rose, one just as ruthless as the one before. The new regime once again targeted Aziz' family.

In 1982, her daughter, Azar, 6 months pregnant, and her husband were killed in a raid by the Revolutionary Guard. Aziz fled the country, forced into exile, where she continued her fight from abroad. Years later, more of her family members were executed.

Madam Speaker, how much can one mother bear? How many sacrifices must one family make for freedom? Despite the unimaginable loss, despite being denied the right to return home, Aziz has never surrendered her hope for a democratic and free Iran.

Today, in her nineties, living in a modest apartment on the outskirts of Paris, she remains steadfast. She continues to speak out. She continues to believe. She says: "The movement to liberate Iran hasn't died. It is strong. It is alive. We are marching forward."

Aziz Rezaee's story is not only about suffering. It is about endurance. It is about resilience and resistance. It is a testament to the unbreakable spirit of the Iranian people who continue to demand basic human rights and who risked everything, including their lives, to achieve them.

Madam Speaker, we stand here in the United States Congress, a place that symbolizes freedom and democratic voices. We must never take those values for granted. We must never turn our eyes away from those who fight for them around the world.

Today, I honor Aziz, a mother of resistance, and all Iranians who stand bravely against oppression. I stand with the Iranian people in their pursuit of democracy, equality, and human dignity. I reaffirm that the United States will always support the fundamental rights of people seeking freedom.

Madam Speaker, may Aziz' courage continue to inspire us like it has inspired me. May her sacrifices never be forgotten. May the day come soon when the people of Iran can live free in peace, justice, and democracy.

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#### HONORING GAYWARD HENDRY'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Madam Speaker, if you drive through Clay County in northeast Florida this time of year,