

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SCOTT FRANKLIN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, I missed Roll Call vote No. 130, due to a House Appropriations Committee Markup. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 130.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JILL ANN HARTWIG

**HON. HALEY M. STEVENS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jill Ann Hartwig, a devoted mother, wife, teacher, and community member whose impact will be felt for years to come. Born in Lansing, Michigan, Jill reflected the very best of Michigan: resilience, compassion, and a deep commitment to helping others.

A proud Spartan, she played softball at Michigan State University, where she demonstrated teamwork and quiet determination, ultimately being recognized with the Spirit Award for her leadership and character. She later graduated summa cum laude from Central Michigan University with a degree in Social Work.

Jill devoted her life to caring for others, showing up every single day with love and intention. Serving as a preschool teacher, foster parent, and mother of four, Jill strengthened her family and community in lasting ways. For too many families, cancer is personal. It underscores the importance of continued research and care so that fewer families face this kind of loss.

Jill passed away on March 4, 2026, surrounded by her family. She is survived by her wife, Misti Rice, and their children: Jacob, Adrian, Alston, and Avery.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply honored to recognize a life grounded in love and service. Known for her warmth, humor, and her ability to make people feel seen and included, her loss will be felt by many in our community. Please join me in celebrating Jill and the radical kindness she shared with us.

RECOGNIZING TEGAIN BOLEY

**HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tegain Boley for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Tegain has overcome many challenges along their journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Tegain, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Tegain's hard

work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Tegain Boley on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

COMMEMORATING THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

**HON. MIKE LEVIN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the Armenian National Committee of America Western Region, Armenian Assembly of America, and all Armenian Americans in commemorating the Armenian Genocide.

I stand with them in remembering the lives of the 1.5 million Armenians—along with 750,000 Assyrians, Greeks, Maronites, and other Christians—who perished. As we honor the memory of the victims and survivors of the Armenian Genocide, we also stand with the Armenian families who carry that pain to this day. We strive to ensure the legacies of the victims and survivors are never forgotten.

I represent a district home to vibrant Armenian American communities stretching from South Orange County to North County San Diego.

My Armenian-American constituents are stewards of the values that are core to this country's identity and have enriched our communities in immeasurable ways. They have demonstrated remarkable perseverance after many of their families faced violent persecution, to make a better life for their children and grandchildren. Their story is a powerful reminder that we must continue rooting out hate whenever and wherever it emerges.

As a member of the Congressional Armenian Caucus, I am proud to represent our local Armenian-American community, and will always strive to be their voice in Congress.

HONORING WINNIE BEATRICE "BEA" RICHARDSON FOR HER SERVICE IN THE 6888TH BATTALION DURING WORLD WAR II

**HON. JOSH HARDER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life, service, and enduring legacy of Ms. Winnie Beatrice "Bea" Richardson, a proud member of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion during World War II, as her family will gather in Texas on June 13, 2026, to commemorate her contributions to our Nation.

Ms. Richardson joined the United States Army on August 28, 1943, in Houston, Texas, at 23 years old. Prior to her service, she worked as a private maid. She began her military career as a supply clerk and later served as a postal clerk, achieving the rank of Private First Class. As part of the historic 6888th Battalion—an all-Black, all-female unit of the Women's Army Corps—she played a vital role in clearing a massive backlog of mail, ensur-

ing troops overseas remained connected to loved ones and strengthening morale during wartime.

For her service, Ms. Richardson received numerous commendations, including the Good Conduct Medal, the Women's Army Corps Service Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, and the Honorable Service Lapel Button. She was honorably discharged on November 16, 1945.

Following her military service, Ms. Richardson continued a lifetime of public service. She worked for 43 years at the Sacramento Army Depot, rising from custodian to Supply Clerk. Her dedication earned recognition for maintaining zero sick leave for a decade from 1983 to 1993, along with many additional awards before retirement.

Ms. Richardson was deeply devoted to her community. She served as a Den Mother and youth leader across scouting organizations, as PTA President, and as Auxiliary President of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in 1970. A longtime member of St. Paul Baptist Church, she served faithfully on the Usher Board and as a Senior Usher.

Affectionately known as "Mother West," she was remembered for her generosity, opening her home to those in need of a meal or safe place to stay.

Ms. Richardson passed away on August 15, 2024, at the age of 84, and is laid to rest at Sacramento Memorial Lawn Cemetery alongside her husband, Andrew Bryan West, a fellow World War II Army veteran. Married in 1950, they raised five children and are survived by a large and loving family who continue to honor her legacy of service and compassion.

This ceremony will stand as a meaningful tribute to Ms. Richardson and the broader contributions of the women of the 6888th Battalion. Her story of courage, perseverance, and patriotism continues to inspire future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Winnie Beatrice "Bea" Richardson for her extraordinary service and lasting impact on our Nation's history.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. MANUEL P. BERRIOZÁBAL

**HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the incredible life and legacy of Dr. Manuel P. Berriozábal, who passed away on April 15, 2026, at the age of 94. A trailblazing educator and mathematician, Dr. Berriozábal dedicated his life to ensuring students had opportunities to succeed in and out of the classroom.

From an early age, Dr. Berriozábal took great interest in mathematics and soon dedicated himself to the pursuit of academic excellence. Dr. Berriozábal's rigorous commitment to his studies resulted in him earning a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from Rockhurst College in 1952, a Master of Science in Mathematics from the University of Notre Dame in

1956, and a Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) in 1961.

In 1976, after teaching at UCLA, Tulane University, and the University of New Orleans, Dr. Berriozábal returned to the city he was born in when he joined the faculty at The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA).

In 1979, following the publication of an article disparaging Mexican American students' abilities in what would become known as the STEM fields, Dr. Berriozábal founded the Pre-freshman Engineering Program (PREP). PREP is a summer program designed to provide middle and high school students with the opportunity to take college-level engineering coursework. Since the program's inception, over 50,000 students across San Antonio and beyond have participated in the enrichment program, launching their own academic journeys and disproving preconceived notions of limitations. Dr. Berriozábal served as the program's director for 25 years with an unshakable, multigenerational dedication to expanding opportunities for community growth and development.

Throughout Dr. Berriozábal's storied career, he received numerous prestigious awards, including the Yuehin Gung and Dr. Charles Y. Hu Award for Distinguished Service to Mathematics, and was a charter member of the Texas Science Hall of Fame.

Dr. Berriozábal is survived by his wife, the Honorable Maria Berriozábal. The two met in 1972 and married in 1975. They shared over 50 years of marriage together, supporting each other as they selflessly gave back to the San Antonio community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the incredible life and remarkable legacy of Dr. Manuel Berriozábal. He was a servant, leader and inspiration to many and I am grateful for his commitment to the San Antonio community.

CONGRATULATING DR. MARY E. BRUNKOW AND THE INSTITUTE FOR SYSTEMS BIOLOGY ON WINNING THE 2025 NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE

### HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 27, 2026*

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Mary E. Brunkow and the Institute for Systems Biology (ISB) in Seattle on the award of the 2025 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, one of the most prestigious honors in science.

A resident of Seattle and a Distinguished Investigator at ISB, Dr. Brunkow has made transformative contributions to immunology through her groundbreaking research on regulatory T cells and the FOXP3 gene, a key regulator of peripheral immune tolerance—the process by which the immune system avoids attacking the body's own tissues. In collaboration with Dr. Fred Ramsdell and building on foundational work by Dr. Shimon Sakaguchi, she helped uncover the genetic and cellular mechanisms that safeguard immune balance,

reshaping the field and laying the foundation for new treatments for autoimmune diseases, improved organ transplantation, and cancer immunotherapy.

Dr. Brunkow's pioneering work has fundamentally advanced our understanding of how the immune system functions and stands as a powerful example of the kind of federally supported biomedical research that improves lives, fuels innovation, and keeps the United States at the forefront of global scientific leadership.

This Nobel-winning discovery reflects the return on our Nation's investment in science. Dr. Brunkow's work is a reminder of why we must continue to support institutions like ISB and ensure that scientists have the resources they need to make the next breakthrough.

On behalf of Washington's 7th Congressional District and the broader scientific community, I extend my deepest congratulations to Dr. Mary E. Brunkow. Her discoveries have reshaped medicine and immunology, and her legacy will continue to inspire future generations of scientists, clinicians, and innovators. I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating her extraordinary contributions to science, health, and humanity, and to recommit to strong, sustained federal investment in biomedical research.

### RECOGNIZING DARRIEN O'REILLY

#### HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 27, 2026*

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Darrien O'Reilly for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Darrien has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Darrien, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Darrien's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Darrien O'Reilly on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

### HONORING COLETTE D. HAIGLER

#### HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 27, 2026*

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Colette D. Haigler. On June 27, 2026, family and friends will gather to celebrate Colette D. Haigler's 55th birthday and her 10th anniversary as a breast cancer survivor at the Annual Pink Party—an occasion that honors both her life and her resilience.

Colette was born on June 24, 1971, in Dallas, Texas, and was educated in the Dallas Independent School District, graduating from

the High School for Health Professions. She went on to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Prairie View A&M University and a Master of Science in Nursing from Texas Woman's University, establishing a strong foundation for a distinguished career in healthcare.

A dedicated and compassionate professional, Colette serves as a Board-Certified Nurse Practitioner with Texas Oncology, where she has made meaningful contributions to patient care. She is a long-time resident of Dallas, particularly the Oak Cliff community, and now resides in Bowie, Maryland.

Colette is devoted to her family as the wife of John C. Haigler and the proud mother of twins, Ava and Austin. She has also remained deeply engaged in her community and faith. The Haigler family were long-time members of Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship Church and are currently active members of First Baptist Church of Glenarden.

Her commitment to service extends beyond her profession. Colette is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, and Chi Eta Phi Nursing Sorority. She also serves on the Executive Committee of the Prince George's County Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, where she contributes to youth development and community leadership.

In her personal time, Colette enjoys traveling, line dancing, and exploring new culinary experiences. Her life reflects a profound dedication to service, family, and perseverance, making this milestone celebration a fitting tribute to her enduring impact.

### CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST OF LANCASTER COUNTY

#### HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 27, 2026*

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor and congratulate the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County for reaching 60 years in operation.

The Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County was founded in 1966 to preserve Lancaster County's historic sites and architecture. The Trust carries out its mission through an array of educational programs, including tours, events, presentations, and outreach on the benefits of preservation. It also collaborates with property owners, businesses, and community members, and undertakes direct action through historic preservation easements and plaques.

Over the past 60 years, the Historic Preservation Trust has directly helped in the protection of more than three dozen sites across Lancaster County. Notable preservation efforts include the Sehner-Elliott-Von Hess House, headquarters, the Lancaster Central Market, and the Thaddeus Stevens and Lydia Hamilton Smith Houses.

Supported by volunteers, community partners, and a hardworking staff, the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County has helped to retain the county's rich and vibrant past. I thank the organization for its positive impact, and I wish them many more years of success.