

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING ABEL VASEY

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

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

Abel 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 Abel, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Abel's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

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

HONORING THE LIFE OF PENELOPE "PENNY" ANN BRIGGS BROWN

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Penelope "Penny" Ann Briggs Brown of Conroe, Texas, who passed away on February 14, 2026. Penny was born on August 13, 1941, in Washington, D.C. A woman of deep faith, kindness, and creativity, she touched countless lives through her generosity, warmth, and unwavering devotion to her family.

Penny graduated from Northwood High School in Silver Spring, Maryland, and earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Maryland. During a summer internship as a Technical Illustrator at Vitro Corporation, she met Richard "Dick" Brown, who later became her husband. Together they raised their children, Derek Michael Brown, Barrington Lee Brown, and Teri Lynn, and welcomed cherished grandchildren Leighton, Gipson, Ashley, and Austin.

Although Penny was talented in many areas, her greatest gifts were evident in the way she mothered her children. She poured her heart into supporting their school activities, sewing costumes, volunteering at events, and cheering them on in marching band, drill team, and football. She created a family life grounded in love and faith, and she carried that same devotion into her relationships with her grandchildren.

Professionally, Penny worked as a CAD CAM operator for E Systems. She also shared her gifts through quilting, jewelry making, and crochet. A faithful servant of her community, she was an active member of The Woodlands

Methodist Church, where she contributed to the Crafts Circle and the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Penny Brown's life was defined by love, creativity, service, and a deep commitment to those around her. She offered encouragement with sincerity and left a lasting impact on all who knew her. Her legacy of compassion and faith will continue to guide and inspire her family and community for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING JACK BUELL ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's 5th Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Jack Buell of Pandora, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Jack's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2030. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of his life. Jack brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2030. While attending Pandora-Gilboa High School, he participated in student government, National Honor Society, Quiz Bowl, and Big Brothers Big Sisters, and was on the honor roll. Throughout high school, Jack was involved in cross country, basketball, and track and field, earning his varsity letter in all three. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jack Buell on his offer of appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Jack will excel during his career at the Military Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

HONORING THE LATE MRS. KAREN SOCK

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I was saddened to learn of the passing of

the phenomenal community leader, Mrs. Karen Sock, who spent decades advocating for cancer patients, students, and for a better South Mississippi.

Mrs. Karen Sock, born in Cleveland, Ohio, dedicated much of her life to public service and community uplift. She was a leader in a male-dominated field and led the way for women to reach the top at Coast Casino. In 1996, she became the Nation's first Black woman to lead a major casino company as a general manager at the original Harrah's Casino in Tunica. This paved the path for Mrs. Sock to open six casinos at various locations while she held leadership positions at other casinos, and effectively managed hundreds of millions of dollars in revenues for casino companies.

Later in life, Mrs. Sock co-founded Pathways2Possibilities (P2P), an interactive, hands-on, career exploration experience for 8th graders. Engaging, educating, and empowering students to seek out a variety of career opportunities with access to professionals and equipment. Since 2013, P2P has impacted over 124,000 8th graders and expanded their program to South Carolina and Tennessee.

Mrs. Sock was also a dedicated breast cancer survivor whose personal journey led her to become a passionate advocate for cancer awareness and support. She led local efforts in the fight against cancer through prevention, education, early detection, and survivorship as the appointed Coalition Chair of Mississippi Gulf Coast Region for the Mississippi Partnership for Comprehensive Cancer Control in 2025.

Mrs. Sock will be remembered for her unwavering commitment to service, her compassion for others, and the lasting impact she made on the lives of countless South Mississippi residents. In 2024 was awarded the annual John R. Blossman Humanitarian Award in recognition for P2P and her leadership during recovery efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. She also received the Pat Santucci Spirit of the Coast Award in February 2026. Her legacy is reflected in the community she helped shape and the many individuals she inspired along the way.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the late Mrs. Karen Sock for her phenomenal leadership in the community and education.

RECOGNIZING ALFONZE ROMERO

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

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

Alfonze has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Alfonze, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Alfonze's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

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

HONORING THE LIVES OF CHRIS
AND JACQUE SHEAFE

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the lives of a dear friend, Chris Sheafe, and his beloved wife, Jacque, who tragically and unexpectedly passed earlier this month.

My wife, Laura, and I are deeply saddened by this loss—a loss to us personally and a loss to our entire community. Chris was a special person—a wise and thoughtful man who generously shared his time with the people and the causes he believed in.

Chris devoted decades of his life to making the American Dream a reality as a successful homebuilder. The safety, shelter, and financial security that comes from owning your home—Chris helped make that possible for so many. He was also a driving force in shaping Tucson's hospitality industry as a partner in the company that constructed one of the signature resorts that our desert community is famous for—Loews Ventana Canyon Resort.

His work with organizations like Rio Nuevo, the Southern Arizona Homebuilders Association, and the Tucson International Airport Authority was a true expression of just how intentionally he cared about the Tucson community, which he called home for the past 50 years.

Chris devoted his career to work that shaped Southern Arizona, improving our community for those who live there today and for the next generation. He was a man of integrity, a man true to his word, a man you wanted close to you.

Chris and Jacque's love for the Lord was truly evident. They both always took time to greet each one of my kids and make them feel special. They brought joy into every room they entered, and together they led a life marked by service and passion.

Laura and I are keeping the Sheafe family in our thoughts and prayers as we all grieve this heartbreaking loss. We are grateful for all he gave to our community. He will be deeply missed and his legacy will live on in the lives he touched.

May my dear friend Chris, and his wife Jacque, rest in peace.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARY
ANNE MULLANY

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mary Anne

Mullany of Ridley Park, Pennsylvania, who passed away recently at the age of 94.

A graduate of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, she went on to receive her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Neumann University before beginning her more than 40-year career as a Registered Nurse, including 20 years in the Neonatal Intensive Care Nursery at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

Throughout her time at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Mary worked to care for the most vulnerable. She spent long nights on her feet monitoring vital signs, carrying out life-saving procedures, holding children during their first and most fragile days, and comforting families as they navigated the challenges of caring for a child born prematurely.

Mary cherished her six children, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren, and dedicated her life to caring for others.

She was a lifelong learner. Her passion for history and travel took her from Israel and Spain to the National Parks of the American West, always by the side of those she loved. She enjoyed attending the Opera, going to Phillies games, and solving New York Times crossword puzzles while sitting in her garden alongside her daughter, Mary.

Today, please join me in remembering Mary Anne Mullany—a nurse, a mother, and a friend to all she knew.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th Anniversary of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Temple, Texas, an institution whose century-long service has strengthened not only the spiritual lives of its congregation, but also the character and community of Central Texas.

Founded in 1926, Immanuel Lutheran Church has been a steadfast presence in Temple for generations by providing worship, fellowship, education, and charitable outreach that reflects the very best of our faith communities. Over the past century, this church has grown from a small gathering of devoted families into a vibrant congregation that continues to serve as a source of stability, compassion, and hope.

From its earliest years, Immanuel Lutheran Church has been a place where faith is lived out through service. Supporting local schools, offering outreach to families in need, and standing as a pillar of fellowship and unity. The congregation's dedication reflects the enduring values that have shaped Central Texas for generations.

As the church looks toward the next century of ministry, its members remain committed to their mission of serving God, uplifting their neighbors, and strengthening the bonds of community. Their legacy is a testament to what can be achieved when faith, family, and service are at the heart of daily life.

I am honored to congratulate Immanuel Lutheran Church of Temple, Texas, on its 100th

Anniversary, and I extend my deepest appreciation for its century of service to the people of the 31st District of Texas. May God continue to bless this congregation and guide its ministry for the next hundred years.

RECOGNIZING ARTURO ARO
CALVILLO

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

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

Arturo 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 Arturo, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Arturo's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Arturo Aro Calvillo on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL PEO
WEEK

HON. ERIN HOUCHIN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National PEO Week, which starts May 17 and ends May 23, 2026.

National PEO Week will celebrate the important contributions of the Professional Employer Organization (PEO) industry, which provides payroll, employee benefits, compliance assistance, and HR services to hundreds of thousands of small and mid-sized businesses that employ more than 4.5 million people.

PEOs help small businesses improve productivity and profitability, focus on their core mission, and grow. Through a PEO, employees of small businesses gain access to important employment benefits such as 401(k) plans; health, dental, life, and other insurance; dependent care; and other benefits they might not typically receive as employees of a small company.

PEOs also take over back-office tasks that consume time, energy, and resources, enabling small businesses working with a PEO to grow twice as fast, have a 12 percent lower employee turnover, and a higher business survival rate.

I know the value that PEOs provide. Before coming to Congress, I worked for a PEO, and I saw firsthand the positive impact they had on small businesses in my home state of Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the PEO industry for all they do to help our Nation's small businesses and their employees prosper.