

Tom, in turn, attributes much of his professional compass to Gene's mentorship and example. And now, a new generation has begun to emerge. Tom's nephew, Royce Prescott, has already begun building his foundation in hospitality, working at the Biltmore before earning a position at the St. Regis in Aspen. Tom's own sons, too, have spent their youth learning the values of service and responsibility within the hotel's halls. The Prescott legacy is not only enduring—it is expanding.

Mr. Speaker, the story of the Biltmore is a story of South Florida itself: a story of resilience, reinvention, and community. It is also a story of family—of a father and son whose shared commitment has ensured that this historic landmark not only survives but thrives. Their leadership has transformed the Biltmore into an award-winning destination for tourism, culture, and community engagement, while preserving the historic integrity that makes it beloved by generations.

As the Biltmore Hotel marks its centennial, we recognize not only its architectural grandeur and historical significance, but the Prescott family's profound contributions to safeguarding its legacy. Because of their vision, dedication, and stewardship, the Biltmore continues to stand as a source of pride for Coral Gables, for South Florida, and for our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to celebrate the Biltmore Hotel on its 100th anniversary and to commend Gene, Tom, and the entire Prescott family for their extraordinary role in shaping its past, present, and future. May this landmark, and the legacy behind it, continue to inspire generations to come.

RECOGNIZING NANA KWAME DWOMOH OF SOUTH DAKOTA FOR WINNING THE 2025 CONGRESSIONAL APP CHALLENGE

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Nana Kwame Dwomoh of Brookings, South Dakota, for his achievement as the 2025 Congressional App Challenge winner for South Dakota.

Nana Kwame developed an innovative app called WorkWellness, designed to promote healthier routines in the workplace. The app runs timed workout and stretch sessions, provides notifications to encourage movement, and suggests targeted stretches. His app features an AI-powered wellness assistant that offers guidance on posture, healthy habits, and other wellness-related questions.

Nana Kwame's accomplishment reflects his talent, dedication, and initiative, as well as the growing strength of STEM education in South Dakota. His success highlights the importance of fostering innovation and providing young people with opportunities to explore technology and coding.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Nana Kwame Dwomoh on this well-deserved honor and in wishing him continued success in his future academic and professional pursuits.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TRANSPORTATION FUNDING EQUALITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Transportation Funding Equality Act. This bill would make the District of Columbia eligible for three federal programs that support the development and revitalization of public transportation systems in the same manner as states are eligible for these programs. It would also make D.C. eligible in the same manner as states are eligible for a transportation program that would support the replacement and removal of infrastructure that damages the ecosystems of the Anacostia and Potomac rivers. D.C. residents pay the same federal taxes as residents of the states and therefore D.C. is almost always treated as a state in federal programs.

First, this bill would treat D.C. as a state in the High-Density States Formula for certain grants from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund. Currently, only states are eligible for these grants. Second, this bill would treat D.C. as a state under the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program. Under the formula grants for this program, each state is authorized to receive a minimum of \$4 million per year, while D.C. is authorized to receive a minimum of only \$1 million per year. Third, this bill would treat D.C. as a state under the National Culvert Removal, Replacement, and Restoration Grant Program. Currently, only states and units of local government are eligible for these grants, and the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has held that D.C. is ineligible, even though D.C. operates as the functional equivalent of a city, county and state. Fourth, this bill would treat D.C. as a state under the Safe Streets for All Program. Cities, counties and political subdivisions of a state are eligible for this program, but DOT has held that D.C. is ineligible.

The programs in this bill fund the modernization of bus and rail fleets, the purchase of zero-emission transit vehicles, the improvement of transit station accessibility for all users, the extension of transit services to new communities, the replacement and repair of culverts and the implementation of roadway safety improvements for all road users.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF JANUARY 6, 2021

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of the 5th anniversary of a day that shook our Nation—the violent assault on the United States Capitol. On January 6, 2021, an armed mob stormed the people's house in an assault on our democracy, the rule of law, and the peaceful transfer of power.

On January 6, 2021, insurrectionists targeted Congress and our country's leaders. This included me, when a man drove across

the country to the Capitol and was eventually brought to justice for his crimes. He was indicted, convicted and imprisoned on 17 gun and ammunition charges after police found an arsenal of explosive devices, firearms, and other weapons in his truck, along with a hit list of targets, which included my name and the notation “one of two Muslims in the House of Reps.” Rioters also targeted my fellow Hoosier, Vice President Mike Pence, erecting a noose and gallows on Capitol grounds with calls to “Hang Mike Pence.”

That hellish day, the Capitol Police and first responders put their lives on the line to save ours, and they deserve our endless thanks. Today, my Democratic colleagues and I proudly display a plaque outside our offices that memorialize those who fought for our capitol and were injured or lost their lives.

But simply honoring those officers with words is not enough. We must honor them with our actions—rejecting misinformation, upholding the integrity of our elections, and ensuring no one is above the law. As soon as President Trump was sworn in the second time, he took the unprecedented action of pardoning all January 6 rioters, including the man who was convicted and imprisoned after targeting me. Since their release, at least 23 individuals have re-offended and committed crimes that include plotting the murder of FBI agents, violent assault, strangulation, possession of child sexual abuse material, and reckless DUI homicide.

Despite the clear evidence of crimes committed by these individuals—on January 6, 2021, and after—President Trump continues to defend insurrectionists but demonize immigrant neighbors who have committed no violent crimes and are being denied due process. Immigration arrests under the Trump administration average 30,000 a month—and yet, less than 5 percent of those individuals have been convicted of a crime.

This sober anniversary is a moment of reflection, especially for those of us who were working at the Capitol that day. It is also a day of resolve and rededication—to make sure nothing like this happens again. We must defend our democracy and our democratic institutions, protect the rights of due process, and create peace through justice for every American.

HONORING THE HEROISM OF PENNDEL BOROUGH POLICE OFFICER SEAN PECK

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Officer Sean Peck of the Penndel Borough Police Department for his extraordinary bravery, selfless service, and unwavering dedication to the safety of his community.

Officer Peck has served as a law enforcement officer for six years, including the past two and a half years with the Penndel Borough Police Department. Prior to joining Penndel Borough, he honorably served for three years with the Philadelphia Police Department. In addition to his distinguished law enforcement career, Officer Peck is a combat

veteran who proudly served our Nation as a member of the elite United States Army 75th Ranger Regiment, exemplifying a lifelong commitment to service and sacrifice.

At approximately 4:40 a.m. on December 11, 2025, while working an overnight shift, Officer Peck observed an active dwelling fire at a residence on West Woodland Avenue, directly across from the Penndel Borough Police Department. Recognizing the immediate and grave danger to the residents inside, Officer Peck did not hesitate to act. He immediately ran toward the burning home and began alerting the sleeping family.

Despite intense fire conditions and heavy smoke, Officer Peck courageously took decisive action to evacuate those trapped inside. Through his swift and fearless response, three children and five adults were able to escape safely before firefighters arrived. A teenager who lived in the home later stated that the loud banging on the door is what startled her awake, and that she heard Officer Peck shouting, "Fire," alerting the family to the danger.

Pennel Borough Police Chief Sean Perry has rightly commended Officer Peck for his quick, selfless response, stating that if Officer Peck had not noticed the fire when he did, the home likely would have become fully engulfed, and there was a strong chance that no one would have made it out safely. Chief Perry emphasized that Officer Peck's immediate actions were instrumental in preventing a tragic loss of life.

Officer Peck, in turn, emphasized that the rescue was a collaborative effort involving fellow officers, the volunteer fire company, and emergency responders. He noted that while he would act the same for anyone, the fact that the residents were a family he knew made the rescue especially meaningful.

Officer Peck has also shared that his desire to serve began at a very young age, inspired

by the first responders of September 11, 2001. That inspiration led him to join the military directly out of high school and continues to guide his service today. He has humbly stated that if he can be even a small fraction as good as those he served alongside in the military and his current police officers, he would consider that a success.

Chief Perry has also extended heartfelt sympathy to the residents affected by this fire. While all occupants were safely evacuated, the Pennel Borough Police Department recognizes the profound hardship and emotional toll associated with the loss of one's home. In coordination with fire services and emergency management partners, the department remains committed to supporting the displaced family during this difficult time.

Mr. Speaker, Officer Sean Peck's actions reflect the very best of public service. His courage under extreme conditions, his humility, and his lifelong dedication to helping others serve as an inspiration to his fellow officers and to all whom he serves. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Officer Sean Peck.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CARNATIC MUSIC ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Carnatic Music Association of North America (CMANA) on the occasion of its 50th anniversary and to honor its

extraordinary contributions to the cultural and musical heritage of our Nation through its preservation and promotion of Carnatic music.

Founded in 1976, CMANA has steadfastly pursued its mission to promote, preserve, and advance the rich tradition of Carnatic music, a classical form of music that originated in South India. Over the past five decades, the organization has become a cornerstone of cultural enrichment in North America, bringing together artists, educators, and music enthusiasts to celebrate this timeless art form.

Through its annual concerts, festivals, workshops, lectures, and educational initiatives, CMANA has fostered a vibrant community of Carnatic musicians and connoisseurs while promoting cross-cultural understanding and appreciation. Its programs have inspired generations of students and audiences, reinforcing the values of discipline, creativity, and collaboration that are integral to the pursuit of Carnatic music.

CMANA has also played an invaluable role in engaging youth, providing opportunities for young people to perform, volunteer, and develop leadership and communication skills that serve them well beyond the stage. By connecting communities and celebrating diversity through music, CMANA continues to strengthen the bonds between cultures and generations.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the leadership, members, and volunteers of the Carnatic Music Association of North America for their passion and dedication. Their efforts have ensured that Carnatic music continues to flourish and inspire in North America. I congratulate CMANA on this milestone anniversary and wish the organization continued success in the years ahead.