

achieve these objectives, not when destruction in the West Bank is undermining prospects for an eventual Palestinian state, civilian casualties are mounting in Lebanon, and the humanitarian situation in Gaza remains dire. My support for these joint resolutions is consistent with my votes last July.

I have consistently supported Israel's right and capacity to protect its people, including through air defense systems to intercept missiles and drones. I strongly believe Iran must not obtain a nuclear weapon. Today, the United States should prioritize diplomacy to secure this goal.

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#### REMEMBERING WILLIAM "BILL" LUNNEY

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life and work of Mr. William "Bill" George Lunney, a beloved and passionate leader in the Dane County, WI, parks and conservation community. Bill served for 30 years as chair of the Dane County Park Commission, where he made a tremendous and lasting impact on our outdoor spaces. Our community mourns his loss, and his contributions will be remembered for generations to come.

Bill was born in 1941 in Goshen, NY. He attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he earned a bachelor of arts in political science and his law degree. After graduation, Bill moved to Madison, WI, where he began a 57-year career dedicated to environmental stewardship and public service.

Bill's career began with a variety of roles in the Wisconsin State court system. He was elected to the Dane County Board of Supervisors in 1969, and his passion for public service was evident early on in his career. While serving on the Dane County Board, Bill emerged as a leading local conservation champion. He spoke at our Nation's first Earth Day celebration in 1970 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Recognizing that conservation requires both public and private sector leadership, he cofounded the Wisconsin Wetlands Association. The organization played a vital role in protecting natural areas from development and ensuring responsible stewardship of existing lands. Bill's leadership was instrumental in safeguarding Madison's wetlands and advancing conservation efforts across the region.

While serving as chair of the Dane County Park Commission, Bill, alongside his wife Judie Pfeifer, cofounded the Foundation for Dane County Parks and went on to serve as its president. Together, they built a permanent endowment to support and sustain Dane County Parks for generations to come.

By the end of his tenure, Dane County parkland had grown from 3,500 acres to more than 18,000 acres, a remarkable expansion driven in large part by Bill's leadership and his ability to inspire others to value conservation. In recognition of his life's work, Bill will be

inducted into the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame this April, an honor that both excited and humbled him.

Above all, those who knew Bill best say he always put his family first. He was a loving husband, son, father, and grandfather. Bill's legacy is reflected not only in the land he helped preserve, but in the people he inspired. Known for his encouragement and curiosity, he left an indelible mark on the conservation community through his steady leadership and vision.

Bill often repeated the mantra, "A park is not just a piece of land, it is a vibrant part of the community." The Madison area is better because Bill himself was such a vibrant part of that community. I am deeply grateful for Bill's lasting impact on preserving our natural environment. His work will continue to benefit the Madison community and will live on in those he inspired throughout his service to Dane County.

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#### REMEMBERING CYNTHIA M. FERGUSON

Ms. ALSOBROOKS. Mr. President, I am honored to celebrate the life and legacy of Cynthia M. Ferguson, a distinguished public servant, accomplished attorney, dedicated advocate for environmental justice, and fellow Marylander, who unfortunately passed away on March 12 at the age of 58.

Ms. Ferguson dedicated more than 25 years to serving the American people at the U.S. Department of Justice with dedication and integrity. A graduate of Carnegie Mellon University and the Chicago-Kent College of Law at the Illinois Institute of Technology, Ms. Ferguson rose from honors trial attorney within the Environment and Natural Resources Division to leading the Department's first-ever Office of Environmental Justice during the Biden administration. In this role, she led efforts to ensure that all communities, particularly those historically overburdened by pollution, receive fair and equal protection under environmental laws.

Ms. Ferguson understood that environmental justice is not an abstract concept but a lived reality for families concerned about the air they breathe and the water they drink, and she dedicated her career to addressing those concerns. Her efforts and leadership made a meaningful difference in communities across the country and helped shape a more equitable approach to environmental protection.

I extend my condolences to her family, friends, and colleagues. Ms. Cynthia M. Ferguson's legacy of service, integrity, and commitment to justice will endure, and she will be greatly missed.

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#### RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL OF MESSMER HIGH SCHOOL

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize Messmer High

School in Milwaukee, WI, on their 100th anniversary. I am pleased to honor this organization and to commemorate this historic milestone.

Founded by Archbishop Sebastian Messmer in 1926 in the city of Milwaukee, Messmer High School was built on a vision of uniting Milwaukee's Catholic parishes and providing a high-quality education rooted in faith for the city's immigrant families. For the past 100 years, Messmer has been a cornerstone of education and opportunity in Milwaukee.

In the 1920s, Milwaukee was a diverse industrial city defined by established immigrant communities. There were large German, Polish, Italian, Mexican, and Eastern European immigrant populations throughout the city, many of which were working-class and low-income. Throughout its early years, led by the School Sisters of Notre Dame and the Capuchin Friars, Messmer quickly became a thriving center of academic excellence, spiritual formation, and community spirit.

Over the past century, Messmer has earned a reputation for its welcoming, family-like culture and a commitment to preparing students for both college and the trades. After the Great Depression and World War II, the school evolved with the changing landscape of Milwaukee to embrace new generations of students from diverse backgrounds. Messmer has become one of Milwaukee's most integrated Catholic high schools through its model of inclusion and faith in action.

In the 1980s, the archdiocese announced plans to close the school. However, a group of determined parents and alumni refused to let Messmer's mission die. This grassroots effort is deemed the "Messmer Miracle" and helped reopen the school while instilling a lasting sense of pride in the institution. Countless people and families have been shaped by Messmer over the past 100 years through the education it provides and the strong sense of community it fosters.

As we honor this significant milestone for Messmer High School, I am grateful for their continued education of Milwaukee's youth, and I look forward to its continued success in the years to come.

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#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

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##### REMEMBERING NANCY COOK

● Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of former Delaware State Senator Nancy W. Cook, who passed away on March 23, 2026, at the age of 89. While she will be remembered for her extraordinary leadership in public office, Nancy was, above all, a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, trusted friend, and a steadfast pillar of her community. My thoughts are with her son Tom, daughter-in-law Beth, and all who knew and loved her.