

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

KEITH CARLISLE

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Searcy's Battalion chief, Keith Carlisle, on his retirement from the fire service.

For 34 years, Chief Carlisle has worked to protect our community. Born and raised in Cabot, he went on to the fire academy and later returned on down the road to Searcy.

His greatest moments in service included comforting victims of car accidents or fires.

Every member of the fire service deserves admiration for their exemplary work for their communities. Public servants, like the chief, play a vital role in the infrastructure that keeps out citizens safe and healthy. I commend Keith Carlisle for his leadership and give best wishes as he transitions into retirement.

HOMETOWN HERO—BUFFER
INSURANCE

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Heroes of the week, Sean Turner and Buffer Insurance of Southlake, Texas.

In response to the recent Roe v. Wade decision, secular companies have offered to pay travel costs for employees to abort babies out-of-state. Fortunately, companies like Buffer Insurance have taken an opposite, humane approach.

Buffer Insurance in Southlake, Texas has offered to pay the medical costs for their employees who birth babies and provide paid time off for employees to have maternity and paternity leave. They would also pay medical costs associated with adopting a baby.

Buffer Insurance CEO, Sean Turner has served as a leading voice on Buffer's decision and how they are prioritizing families and their employees and setting an example of a real pro-life company. This veteran-owned North Texas business should serve as a guiding light to every American. Its dedication to helping mothers and their children is a powerful reminder of the sanctity of life, and I am honored to represent them in Congress.

I thank Sean Turner and Buffer Insurance, for affirming life and valuing children and parents in our community.

HONORING THE YPSILANTI SENIOR
CENTER

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ypsilanti Senior Center for the 60th anniversary of their founding. Their decades of service to the Ypsilanti community are worthy of commendation.

Since December of 1962, the Ypsilanti Senior Center has been providing crucial services to the seniors in our community like opportunities for safe and structured recreation, lunches to order, as well as education in technology. The Center also provides a place in the community for friendship, socializing, and networking. With all that it provides, the Center has truly become a home away from home for our seniors.

Under the leadership of Director Monica Prince, the Ypsilanti Senior Center was able to continue its important work during the depths of the pandemic. They switched over to a frozen meal pickup, maintaining a service that is essential to those who cannot provide for themselves. Partnering with our Washtenaw Community College, fitness classes were taken online to make sure that our seniors could continue to access them. Despite being isolated, our seniors were able to maintain that feeling of community that the Senior Center provides.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Ypsilanti Senior Center for 6 decades of exemplary service to the seniors in the Ypsilanti community. I extend my gratitude to all the workers and volunteers that have provided comfort and joy to those who laid the foundation for future generations to grow and prosper.

RECOGNIZING REVEREND DR.
WILLIE GABLE, JR. RETIRING
PASTOR OF PROGRESSIVE BAP-
TIST CHURCH AFTER 34 YEARS
OF SERVICE

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding, cherished public servant from my home State of Louisiana. Dr. Willie Gable, Jr., a native of New Orleans, received his Doctor of Ministry from United Theological Seminary (Dayton, OH), Master of Divinity from Union Baptist Theological Seminary (New Orleans, LA), Master of Public Administration from the University of Southern California (Los Angeles, CA) and Bachelor's of Science from Tennessee State University (Nashville, TN).

Committed to a life of ministry and community service, Dr. Gable retires as pastor of Pro-

gressive Baptist Church, only its third pastor in 123 years. He is also the founder and Executive Director of the Dr. M.W. McCaleb Educational Fund, Inc., a non-profit organization that offers housing through its four facilities, rental assistance, and tutoring services to low-income individuals and families.

During the formative years of life as a youngster growing up in the Callopie Public Housing units, Dr. Gable considered all kinds of careers, but initially was not drawn to serve God as a preacher. However, he ultimately found his true calling as a servant of the Lord, and our community is so grateful that he did.

Dr. Gable worked for years in the Health Public Administration field, including as the Fiscal Administrator of the Nashville Model Cities Program in Nashville, Tennessee. His achievements in program development gave the opportunity to join Meharry Medical College faculty to develop a new undergraduate program in Health Administration and Planning. He coordinated the development and construction of Pembroke Area Family Health Center and Health Department where he also served as CEO. He was recruited to Chicago, Illinois as the Administrator of Tabernacle Hospital, a 130-bed African American church-owned facility.

Dr. Gable has formerly served on many community boards throughout his career. Currently, he is a member of American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging as well as the National Baptist Convention Housing and Economic Development Commission as Board Chairman and President, which manages 27 housing facilities across 17 states. Also, he serves on the National Conference for Community and Justice, Legacy Foundation, Director Faith Based Initiatives HUD National Baptist Convention USA, Inc., and Gulf Coast Housing Partnership. He is 3rd Vice President of the 1st District Missionary Baptist Association and an Instructor with Louisiana Baptist and National Baptist Convention's Congresses of Christian Education.

He has been an inspirational mentor to me, and I will truly miss his service to this community.

RECOGNIZING THE AMARILLO ECO-
NOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORA-
TION

HON. RONNY JACKSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. JACKSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight a hard-working group that has had tremendous impact on the City of Amarillo and those who live there, including my family. The Amarillo Economic Development Corporation (AEDC), led by its' President and CEO, Kevin Carter, has worked with businesses over the last 30 years to bring jobs and innovation to the Amarillo area.

Focused on its work at the local level, AEDC offers economic development incentives and training programs to connect job

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

searchers with meaningful employment opportunities. These programs enable businesses to either relocate or stay in Amarillo and provide a breeding ground for new and up and coming business ventures. AEDC helps to cultivate the true economic potential that Amarillo and the Panhandle have to offer.

Starting a business is risky and many people do not know where to start. AEDC has been there for more than 30 years to help existing local businesses expand while also helping to attract new businesses to Amarillo. One of AEDC's largest ventures is the Amarillo EnterPrize Challenge, which over the last 25 years has connected AEDC with the WT Enterprise Center to help over 90 companies develop their business aspirations.

The impact that AEDC has had on the businesses and residents of Amarillo cannot be understated. On behalf of the entire Amarillo community, I want to thank Kevin Carter and all AEDC staff for their unwavering commitment to promoting economic growth, and for helping our workforce maximize their potential.

HONORING NAACP MONTEREY
COUNTY BRANCH

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Monterey County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) as they celebrate 90 years of service to the central coast of California. Since its inception in 1932, the NAACP of Monterey County has fiercely advocated for the expansion of civil rights. It has been at the forefront of all struggles and movements to defend and extend the political, social, and economic rights of all those who were the victims of injustice.

The Monterey County branch was originally founded as two separate branches. Both were created with the shared goal of raising awareness to racism and racial discrimination in all its forms. In 1932, Reverend Wellington Smith, Sr., then Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Pacific Grove, took a step toward equality by founding the Monterey Peninsula branch. Seven years later, Mr. William Greenwill founded the Salinas Branch with the same goal of ridding the county of its most abject forms of racism and discrimination. Despite enduring long periods of threats to their members and families, both branches never faltered in their quest to eliminate race-based discrimination and ensure political, educational, and social economic equality.

Before merging in 2006, each respective branch spearheaded decades-long battles in fighting against racist police practices, barriers to accessible housing, and employment discrimination. Over the years, both branches have received numerous national awards for their outstanding work in fighting for equality. Most recently, in 2012, the Monterey County Branch was awarded the Claude Hudson Award, which honors a local branch that exemplifies the NAACP standards. That same year, Mr. Jim Black, treasurer of the branch, was named Treasurer of the Year for his honorable work in the organization. In 2013, the Branch was awarded the Ruby McKnight Wil-

liams Award, which recognizes branches with the largest percentage increase in membership.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize this historic milestone. I personally extend my gratitude to the members of the Executive Team and the volunteers who have worked tirelessly to become one of the most effective civil rights organizations in Monterey County and the State of California.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF PASTOR EDDIE D. SMITH, SR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated man of God, dedicated family man, visionary leader, and friend of longstanding Pastor Eddie Smith on his retirement as the Pastor of Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in Macon, Georgia. His retirement will be celebrated at the Macedonia Baptist Church in Macon, Georgia, on August 7, 2022, at 3:00 pm.

Pastor Smith is a native of Macon, Georgia, born to the union of the late Pastor Jack Smith, Jr., and Mrs. Mattie Mae Myers Smith. A highly educated man, Pastor Smith attended Bibb County public schools and went on to earn a Bachelor and a Master of Science from Fort Valley State College, now Fort Valley State University. On April 26, 1969, Pastor Smith received a calling that would change his life forever—he was called to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Pastor Smith served as a classroom teacher and a media specialist in the Bibb County Public School system for fourteen years before retiring to serve full-time at Macedonia Church, accepting the role of pastor in 1972. While pastoring, he was also called to public service, serving as a Macon City Councilman from 1975 through 1978, as well as a member of the Bibb County Board of Education for two consecutive terms.

The scripture reminds us in Proverbs 29 that “where there is no vision, the people perish.” Pastor Smith’s vision for Macedonia was evident from the very beginning of his ministry. In his early years at Macedonia, Pastor Smith led the congregation in raising the funds to pay off the church’s fifteen-year mortgage in a record five years. In 1999, Pastor Smith led Macedonia Baptist in the purchasing of a struggling sister church. Together, they relocated and revived the church’s congregation, and liquidated its \$1.35 million debt in under three years. In more recent years, he oversaw the funding and construction of the \$1.7 million dollar Family Life Center, a comprehensive faith-based service ministry that educates clergy across middle Georgia. Over the course of his ministry, Pastor Smith has licensed and ordained more than forty-five ministers, extending the reach of his servant leadership to the members of many congregations throughout the region.

Also, he led his flock through the COVID-19 pandemic, establishing community-wide food distribution services and virtual church services and tithing, while ensuring all bills were paid and no church staff lost their jobs.

Shirley Chisholm once said that “Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we oc-

cupy here on this earth.” Pastor Smith has paid his rent and he has paid well. Pastor Smith’s service has extended beyond the walls of the church, as he has been affiliated with several social and civic organizations throughout his career. He has served on the boards of the United Way, the American Cancer Society, the Macon Ministerial Association, and the Macon Police and Firefighter Disciplinary Hearing Board.

Pastor Eddie Smith has always fought for what is right. He is guided by his love of God and his love of people. Mother Teresa once said that “at the end of life we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made, how many great things we have done. We will be judged by “I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was naked, and you clothed me. I was homeless and you took me in.” This is how Pastor Eddie Smith has lived his life and served people in the name of Jesus Christ.

At the center of Pastor Smith’s accomplished life is the unwavering love and support of his family and his loving wife, Martha Kate. Pastor Smith is the father of five adult children: Suwandia; Eddie, Jr.; Corey and the late Alvy Smith and Edwanna Smith Stephens. He is the grandfather of fourteen and great-grandfather of three.

On a personal note, Pastor Smith has been my friend for many years. He has never told me what I wanted to hear, but he has always told me what he felt I needed to hear. I will be forever grateful for his wise advice and sage counsel.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian; and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District, The Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church family and entire Macon community, in extending our sincerest appreciation and best wishes to Pastor Eddie D. Smith, Sr. upon the occasion of his retirement as Pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church and his many years of humble service to humanity.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF COLONEL DR. RONALD G. SARG (USAF, RET.)

HON. LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the life and legacy of Col. Ron Sarg, a Vietnam veteran, a tireless advocate for Delaware’s Veterans, and a friend.

Col. Sarg served combat duty in Vietnam and pursued a career in the Air Force. After his time in Vietnam and throughout his career, he was posted from Turkey to New Mexico. Eventually, he was stationed in Dover, Delaware, where he retired from active duty in 1993.

But Col. Sarg continued to serve his country and community in retirement. He helped Delawareans gain rewarding careers as an instructor at Polytech Adult Education in Dover and he trained many students in the field of dentistry at the University of Pennsylvania.

Yet, he never forgot his fellow veterans. He spent his retirement serving those who heard

the call to duty in our Nation's military. He was a member of the Military Officers Association of America and served as Chairman of the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs, a significant leadership role for Veterans in the State of Delaware. In these roles, Col. Sarg pushed for national and state-level policies that helped Veterans and active-duty service members access affordable housing, receive high-quality mental health care, and gain opportunities for a good education and career.

To Col. Sarg's family, please accept my heartfelt and sincerest condolences. Ron was a true friend and a pillar of our community in the First State. He will be greatly missed but not forgotten.

MOURNING DR. JIM CITTY

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of Dr. Jim Citty, a longtime physician in Searcy.

Dr. Citty first moved to Searcy in 1957 to play basketball and football for Harding University, where he would later serve as team physician for Bison Athletics.

Upon graduating from herding, Jim attended medical school at the University of Tennessee and later enlisted in the United States Army during the Vietnam War.

Dr. Citty returned to Searcy to settle down in 1975. Throughout his career, Dr. Citty delivered over 10,000 babies in the White County area.

Known and loved by Searcy residents, many of whom he helped deliver, his loss is felt deeply. "Doc's" impact within the community will not be forgotten.

My prayers go out to Dr. Citty's family, friends, and all who knew and loved him.

RECOGNIZING LANA ABBASI FOR HER DUTIFUL SERVICE IN CONGRESS ON BEHALF OF THE 41ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lana Abbasi, a dedicated member of my team who has recently announced her plans to return home to California to join the private sector. Since October 2017, Lana has loyally served the constituents of the 41st Congressional District, where she has worn many hats as a field representative, press secretary, and now communications director for my office.

Lana has been an invaluable asset to the institution of Congress and my team, and we are deeply saddened by her departure. During her tenure, Lana has elevated the values of my constituents and their needs through influential media strategies on numerous topics that have brought national recognition to the Inland Empire.

Lana's work to deliver timely information to constituents regarding COVID-19 in the face

of a global pandemic was vitally important to the health and well-being of thousands of people in the Inland Empire. Her messaging and outreach on other issues such as the treatment of our veterans, the future of work, and federal investments in local projects were also imperative.

Madam Speaker, I am incredibly honored to have had Lana as a member of my team. Her contributions to my office and the constituents of California's 41st District will be forever celebrated through her service and her work. Lana's quick wit and impeccable fashion sense will be missed in the office each day, and I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

HONORING RODRIGO "ROD" GARCIA

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Ms. SÁNCHEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and celebrate the life of Rod Garcia, a respected visionary, leader, and advocate in Southern California. Rod dedicated his life to empowering the Latino community in educational excellence, economic opportunity, and social equity through the science, technology, engineering, and math fields. He was a trailblazer for Latinos in STEM, and his work to continue diversifying this essential workforce lives on.

Rod graduated from California State University in Los Angeles with a Bachelor's Degree of Science in Engineering. During the tech boom in California in 1973, Rod became one of the few Hispanic engineers to be a leader in the STEM field.

Seeing the lack of Latino representation in STEM, Rod founded the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE). He sought to diversify the field by offering networking and educational opportunities for Hispanic students and professionals in the Southern California region.

Rod had the unique ability to unite community partners and leaders around the country in the commitment to closing the STEM gap among Latinos.

Over the course of five decades, Rod propelled the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers to reach 13,000 members and 286 chapters nationwide.

Today, Latinos continue to experience some of the most noticeable disparities in representation within the STEM field.

But Rod's legacy will live on through his devotion and work to close that gap. His work will continue to help future generations of Latinos realize their fullest potential to positively impact the world.

HARDING ACADEMY BASEBALL

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gavin Alveti, a 2022 graduate from Harding Academy and distinguished member

of the Wildcat baseball team, who was recently named the Arkansas Democrat Gazette All-Arkansas Preps Baseball Player of the Year.

Gavin suffered a broken orbital bone during a game in April after being hit by a fastball. Despite these injuries, Gavin returned to the mound within a week and was able to finish out his senior season.

The Harding Academy baseball team went on to win the AAA Arkansas State Championship, under the leadership of Coach Shane Fullerton.

Despite obstacles throughout the season, I am pleased to recognize Gavin, Coach Fullerton, and the Harding Academy baseball team on a strong, hard-fought season.

I congratulate them on their achievements.

HOMETOWN HERO—AVERY HILL

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero of the week, Avery Hill, an avid reader and young woman who has gone above and beyond to better our community.

Avery began volunteering with Exodus Ministries, a nonprofit designed to transform the lives of previously incarcerated mothers and their children. While volunteering at the Exodus House—a transitional house for the mothers and their children—she noticed the children's library shelves were bare. Inspired to share her passion for reading with underprivileged children, Avery took action.

During the onset of the COVID pandemic, Avery began organizing book drives. She spread the word around her community to leave any books, games, or elementary school supplies on their doorsteps, where she would then go door to door to pick them up.

After organizing all the donations, Avery not only stocked the library's shelves with 600 new books, but revamped it by adding a mural, new curtains, 300 building blocks, and 50 games.

Avery's story should serve as an inspiration to all of us to not only give back to our community but leave it better than when we found it.

I wish Avery the best of luck as she heads off to college this fall, and thank her for her dedication to helping our fellow North Texans.

HONORING DARCY J. DAVIS

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Darcy J. Davis, a distinguished health care advocate, to congratulate her on being named to Florida's Top 100 Women-Led Businesses by the Commonwealth Institute of Florida. For more than 30 years, Darcy has empowered women by promoting gender equity and diversity within the health care system, and she is among the 15 percent of health care CEOs nationwide who are women.

As CEO of the Health Care District of Palm Beach County, Darcy has ensured that the residents of our county have access to comprehensive primary care, specialty care, and dental services. The Health Care District serves such an important role in our community, often assisting those without insurance, and has administered over 200,000 COVID-19 vaccinations throughout the pandemic.

Darcy also serves our community as a member of the America's Essential Hospitals' Strategic Planning Committee, the United Way of Palm Beach County's Hunger Relief Advisory Council, and the County's Sober Home Task Force. She has received several other awards and has been honored by the Palm Beach County Medical Society as a "Hero in Medicine".

Darcy's dedication to health care access and her service to the people of South Florida is truly admirable. I am proud to celebrate her today and wish her continued success.

KASON "ROOSTER" LIPSMEYER

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate seventh grader Kason "Rooster" Lipsmeyer, of Vilonia, who has earned a position on the Arkansas National Junior High Rodeo team.

Rooster and his teammates will be competing in the 17th annual National Junior High Finals Rodeo in the light rifle competition in Perry, Georgia.

While it is only Rooster's first year competing, he won both the state championship and was the average champion in light rifle for the Arkansas Junior High School Rodeo Association.

The art of competitive shooting is a long-standing tradition. Gun safety and accuracy are vital skills for gun-owners and all who will be around firearms. I commend Rooster for his determination, precision, and good sportsmanship and look forward to rooting him on as he competes against over a thousand others in the national competition.

Congratulations and good luck to Rooster and the entire Arkansas National Junior High Rodeo team. We look forward to cheering them all on.

HONORING ELINA ZILBERBERG

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Elina Zilberberg, a resident of Ann Arbor, Michigan, for her 25 years of service with the Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County. Her contributions to our community are worthy of commendation.

Born in Baku, Azerbaijan in the former Soviet Union, Elina immigrated to the Detroit area with her parents as a refugee in 1979. This experience sparked a deep interest in refugee advocacy, leading Elina to begin her career as a resettlement case worker in Metro

Detroit after earning a B.A. in Business Administration from Wayne State University. In the years since, Elina has dedicated her professional career to supporting others as they navigate the same challenging journey her family experienced decades ago.

From her humble beginnings as JFS's first employee in October 1997, Elina has become a pillar of the organization. She now serves as their Chief Operating Officer and is involved in coordinating employment services, the English as a Second Language program, and transportation services. As COO, she oversees HR, facilities management, as well as purchasing. Her leadership has been instrumental to the enormous growth that JFS of Washtenaw County has experienced over the last 25 years.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues today to join me in celebrating Elina Zilberberg. I join with our community to thank her for her tireless work in helping other families prosper and achieve the American Dream. I am proud to honor her work and the impact she has made on our community.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE JENNIFER VIDRINE, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF VILLE PLATTE, AND NEWLY APPOINTED BOARD PRESIDENT OF THE LOUISIANA MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION AS THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding, cherished public servant from my home State of Louisiana. My dear friend and the mayor of the City of Ville Platte, Jennifer Vidrine, will soon take the top leadership position of the Louisiana Municipal Association (LMA) as the first African-American woman Board President. The LMA was established in 1926 and is the strongest advocate for municipal government in my state. On July 30, it will become an even stronger and more effective organization with the installation of Mayor Vidrine as president.

This is one of many "firsts" she is known for. In 2011, she was elected the first woman and African-American mayor of her fine city where today she continues to provide sound and caring leadership. Mayor Vidrine is a skilled and dedicated municipal leader with a deep passion for the residents she serves. On any given day, you will find Mayor Vidrine meeting with constituents about an array of issues affecting the elderly and youth, inspecting city utilities, sharing ideas with business leaders, and visiting local schools. Her phone never stops ringing. She encourages residents to call her directly on her cell phone, and they do. She frequently utilizes a telephone messaging service to keep residents informed on issues ranging from severe weather warnings, boil advisories, local sporting events, and the all-important annual celebrations like the city's Smoked Meat and Louisiana Cotton festivals.

She was one of the first mayors to provide free testing and vaccinations during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic. Working

with state and federal officials, Mayor Vidrine was steadfast in instituting sound local ordinances to keep her community safe and provided critical personal protection equipment. She is an eloquent speaker who knows how to educate and motivate those of us in positions that can help navigate the federal bureaucracy. She never hesitates to speak up on behalf of the smaller towns and villages of our state giving them a voice of care and concern. She is an absolute force to be reckoned with each time she travels to Capitol Hill as one of the LMA's chief advocates for local government issues.

Madam Speaker, it is a distinct honor for me to recognize this great leader and advocate for our great State of Louisiana, The Honorable Jennifer Vidrine in such a public way. I am confident she will have a significant and lasting impact on the LMA for years to come. I am extremely proud to call her my dear friend and now, Madam President.

MILDRED DAVIDSON 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Mildred Davidson of Sweet Home, Arkansas, in honor of her 100th birthday.

Ms. Mildred Davidson grew up as one of 11 children and went on to work when she was just nine years old, helping her mother with her work as a maid, laundress and raising her other siblings. Those who know her, and her life story will tell you, Ms. Davidson's dedication to serving others is clear.

She worked for 25 years at the Arkansas Confederate Home providing care to poverty-stricken veterans, their widows and their orphans.

She was later hired into her dream job as an employee at the Holiday Inn at Sixth and Broadway, where her work spanned nearly two decades and included assignments on the hotel's seventh floor, which was reserved for special guests. Ms. Davidson was known for being an exemplar worker, making certain to treat every guest with respect.

Today, she dedicated her time to being with her grandchildren and has plans to grow a vegetable garden this summer, just as she has done throughout her life.

I give my best wishes to Ms. Davidson and her family in celebration of her 100th birthday, and I commend her for her decades spent caring for others.

HONORING ERNEST MARVEL—WORLD WAR II VETERAN AND RECIPIENT OF THE LEGION OF HONOR

HON. LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Mr. Ernest B. Marvel, proud World War II Veteran

and recent recipient of France's highest distinction, the Ordre national de la légion d'honneur, also known as the Legion of Honor.

On July 14, 2022, Mr. Marvel was presented the Legion of Honor by the French Ambassador to the United States, Philippe Etienne. The Legion of Honor was first created over two centuries ago to reward eminent military and civil merits in service or defense of France. Created as an order of merit, foreign citizens may be awarded this recognition for their actions in support of France. For a World War Two Veteran like Mr. Marvel to be awarded the Legion of Honor, they must prove they were involved in combat operations within France.

As a Private First Class with the 45th Infantry Division of the United States Army, Mr. Marvel's service demonstrated exceptional bravery, character, and valor. Arriving in France shortly after the Battle of the Bulge, Mr. Marvel was soon given a vital mission to clear mines and booby traps. That mission brought Mr. Marvel and another soldier into direct contact with enemy troops. For his successful actions that day, Mr. Marvel was awarded the Bronze Star. After this action, Mr. Marvel participated in several dangerous combat missions to help liberate France from Nazi Germany, including missions as a bazooka man and in notable amphibious operations across the Rhine River.

Despite the significant combat Mr. Marvel and his unit saw in Europe, perhaps the most harrowing experience was their actions to liberate the victims in the Dachau Concentration Camp. As Mr. Marvel and the 45th Infantry Division moved toward Dachau, they were engaged in fierce combat with German troops still defending the camp. Mr. Marvel would help liberate 32,000 captives of Dachau. But, as Mr. Marvel recalls, the "sights in this camp I will never ever forget."

Mr. Marvel was awarded numerous awards for his service, including the Bronze Star, the Combat Infantry Badge, and several campaign medals. With the latest award of the Legion of Honor, Mr. Marvel joins a distinguished group of Americans, including President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Audie Murphy, Chuck Yeager, and many others.

On behalf of the State of Delaware and a grateful nation, I thank Mr. Marvel for his service to our country. He sacrificed greatly to safeguard freedom and democracy. He is a testament to our Nation and his actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army. Congratulations once again to Mr. Marvel on this honor, as he brings great pride to Delaware and the United States.

HONORING COLONEL ERIC A. KENNEDY ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE U.S. MILITARY

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Colonel Eric A. Kennedy, upon his retirement after more than 30 years of military service in both the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force. A dedicated and respected public

servant, he has continued to serve his fellow veterans as the lead physician assistant at the Battle Creek VA Medical Center.

Colonel Kennedy's passion for medicine and innovation helped make 21st Century Cures a reality. Through Eric's work as the lead PA at the Battle Creek VA Medical Center, he has helped thousands of veterans like himself lead healthy lives after their service. He has been a preceptor for Grand Valley State University and WMU Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine students during his time at the VA.

In addition to Eric's long history of medical service, he also served as an active member of the Michigan Army National Guard and was deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan and Africa on humanitarian missions. In 2015, Colonel Kennedy was the first physician assistant to be named Medical Commander for the Michigan Army National Guard. He now serves as the State Surgeon for the Michigan Army National Guard, where he is responsible for policy direction and management of the Michigan Army National Guard health service system.

In addition to the Colonel's long list of accomplishments, he and his wife, Sarah have raised two wonderful daughters, Brielle and Brooke, in Mattawan, Michigan. Sarah and Eric met at Western Michigan University right here in Southwest Michigan many years ago and together they have grown as a family and helped grow our community with their many successes.

I congratulate Colonel Kennedy. His retirement is well deserved, and I look forward to seeing what the future holds for him.

NORTH CENTRAL ARKANSAS ARTIST LEAGUE

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding work of the artists who make up the North Central Arkansas Artist League.

The league recently debuted a new art exhibit, currently on display at the Ozark Health Medical Center in Clinton through August 17th.

The exhibit is made up of 43 original pieces of art, created by local artists inspired by "Summer Fun". Subjects include landscapes, florals, wildlife, and portraits.

All artwork is made from oils, acrylics, watercolors, and charcoal.

I commend the North Central Arkansas Artist League on another successful exhibit, and I encourage all to spend an evening in Clinton, admiring the work of our local artists.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2022

SPEECH OF

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2022

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, the CHIPS Act will help boost the United States' semiconductor manufacturing capacity. The legislation

includes a 25 percent investment tax credit for businesses to invest in facilities for which the primary purpose is the manufacturing of semiconductors or semiconductor manufacturing equipment. Experts agree that a semiconductor is a substance, such as silicon, whose electrical conductivity is between that of a conductor and that of an insulator, or a semiconductor device. Semiconductors have become an essential aspect of modern life, and this legislation will increase the production of semiconductors here in the USA, including in my home state of Michigan. I support passage of this crucially important legislation which accelerates the production of U.S.-made semiconductors by providing support along the entire supply chain.

RARE KIDNEY DISEASE WEEK

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the designation of July 18 to July 22, 2022, as Rare Kidney Disease Week.

Too often, rare kidney diseases are life-threatening, lack effective treatments, are difficult to diagnose. Many individuals who are diagnosed with a rare kidney disease—particularly communities of color, which are disproportionately burdened by disease—rapidly progress to end-stage kidney disease, kidney failure, and the need for a kidney transplant. Meanwhile, there has been little to no innovation in treatment for kidney disease patients since the 1960s—a time when the use of dialysis and immunosuppressants became commonplace.

This lack of innovation makes Rare Kidney Disease Week especially crucial for spreading awareness. Increased awareness of rare kidney diseases will encourage accurate and early diagnosis, help prevent the need for dialysis and kidney transplant, and support both public and private efforts to develop effective diagnostics and cures.

It is with high expectations that Rare Kidney Disease Week is observed nationally for years to come, providing hope for and shedding light upon the rare kidney disease community.

Once again, I am pleased to recognize July 18 through July 22, 2022, as Rare Kidney Disease Week.

PULASKI COUNTY SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT VOLUNTEERS

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the volunteers of the Pulaski County Special School District who have devoted nearly 18,000 hours to Pulaski County students during the 2021–2022 school year.

Several individual volunteers earned awards for extraordinary commitment of their time.

Recognized volunteers include Ms. Charnelle Joslin of Cato Elementary; Mr. Demone Gillette of Joe T. Robinson Middle School; and Ms. Amber Henson of Joe T.

Robinson High School. Together, these 3 volunteers dedicated over 850 hours to the needs of students within the district.

Additionally, Joe T. Robinson Elementary, Joe T. Robinson Middle School, and Maumelle High School were recognized for having the highest average volunteer hours donated per student.

These volunteers are vital to the educational success of our students and promotes better citizenship by encouraging our kids to volunteer and make an impact in their communities.

I commend the Pulaski County Special School District for their exemplary volunteer programs.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. STEPHAN EARLY

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. GOMEZ. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the life and legacy of a community leader and advocate, Mr. Stephan Early.

Mr. Early was an educator and active community member. Mr. Early taught English at Eagle Rock High School for 30 years and was part of the National Education Association where he represented California as a delegate in education policy for nearly 10 years. He was most proud of teaching Shakespeare to students, noting the literature's timeless and engaging language.

Mr. Early was a standout educator, and dedicated ally and advocate. He supported his students at bake sales, car washes, and encouraged neighbors to do the same. Mr. Early would say, "in order to communicate an idea, you need to be able to write it down." His passion for teaching, creating community, and service is what made Mr. Early a model citizen.

Mr. Early cared so deeply about his community that he served as the Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council President for 2 years and always worked on protecting the Eagle Rock community. Mr. Early was a proud family man and veteran. His wife, Mrs. Early, remembers him as a loving husband and proud father of 2. Mr. Early served our Nation in uniform during the Vietnam War and was awarded the Purple Heart.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Mr. Stephan Early.

HONORING SAM MILLS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of the life of Sam Mills as he is posthumously enshrined into the Pro Football Hall of Fame on August 6, 2022.

Despite often being overlooked due to his small stature as a linebacker, Sam Mills persisted and shattered misperceptions and records throughout his career. He never gave up on or off the field, fighting until the end of his two-year battle with cancer, which tragically took him too soon at the age of 45. Re-

fusing to let his diagnosis stop him, Mr. Mills' motto to "Keep Pounding" became a rallying cry for his team and future generations of players.

Born in Neptune and raised in Long Branch, Mr. Mills was a New Jersey native who always stayed true to his roots. A standout player for Long Branch High School, Mr. Mills was a first-team All-Shore selection in his senior year. His Long Branch jersey is proudly displayed in the high school gymnasium alongside his Carolina Panthers jersey. Each year, two players in the Shore Sports Network All-Shore Gridiron Classic are chosen to receive the Sam Mills Award in his honor.

A walk-on at Montclair State, Mr. Mills left his mark on the university as he did in Long Branch. He set records, was recognized for his performance, and led the team as captain for two seasons. The university retired his jersey number and memorialized his legacy with a residence hall and the dining area, Sam's Place, named after him. In addition to his achievements on the field, Sam Mills graduated Montclair State with a Bachelor of Science degree and was later awarded an honorary doctoral degree from the university. He has been inducted into the Montclair State University Hall of Fame as well as the College Football Hall of Fame.

Overcoming rejections by other leagues, Sam Mills played three seasons in the United States Football League (USFL), where his talent did not go unnoticed. When his USFL Philadelphia/Baltimore Stars coach Jim Mora was named head coach of the New Orleans Saints, he took Mr. Mills with him. Mr. Mills' athletic prowess and leadership helped the Saints to four playoff appearances in his 9 seasons with the team. He was then a key player with the 1995 expansion team Carolina Panthers, where he played until his retirement in 1997. At the end of his NFL playing career, Sam Mills recorded 12 seasons and 181 games, 5 Pro Bowl appearances, 3 All-Pro and All-NFC selections, and remarkable career statistics.

After retiring as a player, Mr. Mills found his way back to the field in 1999, working as an assistant coach for the Carolina Panthers. Having nearly entered the teaching profession before joining the USFL, Mr. Mills was a natural as a coach. He continued to coach throughout his cancer treatments, inspiring the franchise to this day. "Keep Pounding" is inscribed in the collar of each team jersey, the Keep Pounding Drum is played before each home game, and a statue depicting Mr. Mills was erected outside their stadium. Likewise, both his Panthers and Saints jerseys are retired.

Mr. Mills is remembered by his loving family, who will be in Canton, Ohio for the Pro Football Hall of Fame celebration, as well as former teammates, players, and coaches. His induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame ensures that future players and individuals alike will be inspired by his story. His character and tenacity are as much a part of his legacy as his statistics and accomplishments, and his impact on those he has mentored directly, and indirectly, is indelible.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring the life and accomplishments of Sam Mills. His election to the Pro Football Hall of Fame Class of 2022 is well-earned and truly deserving of this body's recognition. Keep Pounding.

BURLENE SHEPARD AND JOHN FISHER

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Burlene Shepard and John Fisher who were married June 9.

At The Crossing at Riverside Health and Rehab in Searcy, Burlene was 65 and never married and John Fisher, at 66, moved into a nearby room. It didn't take long for the two to find themselves talking for hours and soon after, falling in love.

While unexpected, their relationship lit up the center and brought together residents and staff members as they created a beautiful ceremony.

Surrounded by friends and family, the couple celebrated their love as they had their wedding in the very lobby where they got to know one another.

Best wishes to them both.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF PETER J. DALEY II

HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the life of Pennsylvania State Representative Peter J. Daley II, who sadly passed away last month.

Representative Daley dedicated his life to the people of the Keystone State. He began his career as a schoolteacher before becoming mayor of California Borough at the age of twenty-two, the youngest mayor in the history of the Commonwealth. Representative Daley taught and led the borough for seven years before being elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1982.

During his 34 years in the Pennsylvania House, Representative Daley served as Chairman of both the Agriculture and Rural Committee and the Commerce Committee. Representative Daley's legislative achievements included enabling farms to co-exist with residential areas and reforming mortgages during the 2008 financial crash. His leadership also led to the creation of thousands of jobs in Pennsylvania.

Beyond his civil service, Representative Daley worked as an attorney after earning a degree from the Widener School of Law. He was widely known as a friendly and knowledgeable lawyer, affectionately earning the nickname "Uncle Pete" from many he mentored.

Representative Daley was an active member of his community. Every Easter and Thanksgiving, he helped organize and sponsor food distribution events. He will be greatly missed for this generous spirit. Peter is survived by Sally, his wife of 47 years, 3 children, and 5 great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the life of Representative Peter J. Daley II. May we be inspired by his dedicated service to the Commonwealth.

HONORING DREW GRIFFIN'S SERVICE TO OHIO'S FIFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dedicated member of my staff, Drew Griffin, who will be leaving our office at the beginning of September.

Hailing originally from the Pacific Northwest, Drew has dedicated his career to public service, including time spent working on behalf of the people of Washington and Minnesota. We have been blessed to have Drew working on behalf of the Buckeye state for the past six years, three of which as my Chief of Staff, and we know it will be hard to replace him.

A dedicated sports fan, Drew could always be counted on to discuss the latest news impacting his Seattle Sounders or Washington Nationals. He instilled in everyone he interacted with a sense of comradery and purpose, showcasing the positive impact that individuals can have on their community if they worked together.

Drew is also a loving father to daughter, Eve, and son, Jack, and a dedicated husband to Ann. As he enters this next chapter in his life, I know that he will have the love and support of his family and friends to help him along the way.

I am eternally grateful for Drew for all he has done for me, and I wish him and his family the best.

STATEWIDE WRITING CONTEST WINNERS

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the winners of the 2022 Arkansas PBS KIDS Writers Contest.

This competition was created to assist in advancing the literacy skills of young children by way of hands-on, active learning.

The criteria for which these young authors were judged included originality, creative expression, storytelling, and integration of text and illustrations.

Ninety-three students between kindergarten and 3rd grade submitted entries for this year's competition.

Submissions were divided by grade, with 3 winners for each group.

First place winners from Arkansas Second Congressional District include Abigail Wharton of Conway and Elijah Smith of Benton.

Beginning July 6th, all students who entered the competition were given the opportunity to read their stories during a summer learning broadcast series, produced by Arkansas PBS.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2022 Arkansas PBS KIDS Writers Contest, and I commend all who submitted stories.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MSG MICHAEL CLARK

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mourn the premature, tragic loss of an American patriot, devoted husband and parent, Master Sergeant Michael Clark of Bolton, Connecticut, age 41. MSG Clark tragically lost his life on July 20, 2022, from a lightning strike while on army reserve training exercises with his unit at Fort Gordon, Georgia.

Born in Springfield, Massachusetts, Michael was brought up in a family with a deep sense of duty to our nation. Like his father David Clark, Michael 22 years ago volunteered to wear the uniform of his country in the U.S. Army. During that time, he deployed on four occasions to Iraq and Afghanistan. As a striking example of the Clark family's devotion to military service, he and his father were simultaneously deployed overseas on two occasions. MSG Clark was an operating room specialist with the U.S. Army Reserves, assisting with lifesaving, emergency surgeries in dangerous environments. Madam Speaker, sometimes the essential role of our military's Reserve Force is not that well understood or appreciated. MSG Clark's life and public service is a powerful reminder of how critical all of our reserve forces are in providing key support for active-duty soldiers, sailors, marines and coast guard as part of the mission to defend our nation and our way of life.

At home, David applied his skills to another center of excellence, the Bone and Joint Institute at Hartford Hospital, facilitating high quality orthopedic and healing care to the Connecticut community at large. His work in that cutting-edge hospital system, enhanced the skills he applied to the work he performed in the Army Reserve. His double faceted work in the civilian and military sector highlights that he was the quintessential "citizen soldier" which forms the backbone of our guard and reserve system.

A family man at heart, Michael's passing is heartbreaking for his wife, Rachel, and two children, Logan and Hailey. He was very involved in his children's sports and active in the town of Bolton, which has been mourning his loss since the news of his passing was made public. The Bolton Fire Department immediately displayed a prominent memorial to MSG Clark at its fire station which as another volunteer force is fitting. Though he never left for deployment without leaving a love letter at Rachel's bedside, he still kept involved with his family, and made sure to prioritize his children's upbringing. The void left behind him has already exerted a strong influence upon the relatively young Clark family and children especially, and we can only find solace in coming to cherish—with time—the lessons and positive force that he spread during his short time on this earth. Carrying those memories onward is paramount as we simultaneously appreciate the unmatched level of dedication he purposed towards nurturing his family.

Madam Speaker, MSG Clark's legacy of commitment toward those around him remains infinite. He was a doer and as part of the "car-

ing profession", a highly talented healer. We bear the standard of his memory not just to honor his service to his family and our Nation, but also to put him forth as an example of how every one of us to carry our own lives, trying help and heal others. To that end, Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in this moment to honor the name and character of MSG Michael Clark, so that we may preserve for austerity his life's story.

BIG CAT PUBLIC SAFETY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 263, the "Big Cat Public Safety Act" which would prohibit the private possession, breeding, and public exploitation of lions, tigers, leopards, and other large cats.

H.R. 263 amends the animal rights protections outlined in the "Lacey Act" and the "Captive Wildlife Safety Act" by prohibiting the import and shipment of big cats in the U.S., preventing public contact with big cats outside of academic and research institutions, and halting the illegal breeding of cubs by private owners.

I have long been an advocate for protecting big cats.

In the 114th Congress, I proudly sponsored the "Cecil the Lion Endangered and Threatened Species Act of 2015" which prohibited the importation of any endangered animal killed via trophy hunting, including African lions, amur leopards, and other big cat species.

Today I will continue to fight for the wellbeing of these animals by urging Congress to pass this equally important piece of legislation—H.R. 263.

It is estimated that there are anywhere between 10,000 and 20,000 big cats living in private captivity within the U.S.

In fact, the Humane Society has been quoted saying that there are more tigers in captivity in Texas alone, than there are in the wild in the entire world;

These noble animals often live in terrible conditions and are at risk of abuse and neglect at the hands of inexperienced and untrained handlers.

Many big cats are used as side show attractions for private roadside zoos that masquerade as rescue sanctuaries.

Under the guise of wildlife conservation, private animal collectors manipulate the public into paying money and offering donations for the upkeep of their big cats. While private owners profit off the animals, the living conditions of the lions, tigers, leopards, and other animals rarely improve.

Under H.R. 263, private owners would be allowed to retain their current animals—with restriction.

This legislation would mandate that all privately owned big cats be registered to ensure that first responders and animal control officers are aware of the presence of big cats within their communities.

This allows police to be prepared in the event of an animal attack or escape.

In 2021 a 175-pound tiger was famously caught on film stalking an off-duty police officer in Houston. Videos show the officer aiming

a pistol at the tiger as the animal continued to prowel closer.

It took law enforcement officials more than a week to track down and arrest the wild animal's owner. Had this animal been registered to the city, the owner would have been identified and the situation would have been more rapidly resolved.

Fortunately, in that instance neither city residents nor the tiger were harmed. However, that is not always the case with captive big cats.

Since 1990, more than 400 dangerous incidents involving big cats have occurred across the country.

Four children and 16 adults have lost their lives. Hundreds more have been mauled or mutilated.

Big cats cannot be domesticated.

They are not pets whose ancestors have lived alongside humans for thousands of years.

They are not for human amusement.

Regardless of how much human contact these animals experience, big cats will always maintain their natural instinct to hunt and attack.

They are, and always will be, wild animals.

While large menageries of adult tigers and leopards attract tourists to private zoos, baby cats are the most lucrative resource for private animal collectors.

Unregulated zoos receive the majority of their income through the despicable practice of "cub-petting."

Cub petting requires that baby lions, tigers, and other cats be ripped from their mothers just hours after birth so that they can be handled and photographed by paying tourists.

Because visitors want to see the smallest and youngest cubs, zoos only put cubs on display until they are about 8 to 12 weeks old.

At that point, the cubs become financial and safety liabilities.

Once they are too big to be used for cub petting some are killed, distributed on the black market for animal parts, or sold for pets.

The "Big Cat Public Safety Act" would put a stop to this barbaric and inhumane practice by prohibiting the accidental and intentional breeding of new cubs.

H.R. 263 would allow big cat breeding only by wildlife sanctuaries, veterinarians, universities, and zoos that have qualified and trained staff acting within the best interest of animals and ecological conservation.

The bill would also require that any public observation of big cats be at a distance of 15 feet, thus preventing the continued practice of cub-petting and big cat photo ops.

By implementing these reforms, Congress can continue to support the protection of endangered species while preventing the exploitation and abuse of big cats in America.

I have consistently called for the development of pragmatic, environmentally friendly, and economically efficient strategies for addressing and resolving environmental and animal rights crises.

This bill is a viable solution to the plight of big cats in American captivity.

The "Big Cat Public Safety Act" is an invaluable step towards preventing animal abuse and threats to public safety in the United States.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I encourage my constituents to steer clear of any and all private big cat zoos or col-

lections. There are ways to honor and observe these magnificent animals while ensuring they receive the respect and care they deserve.

HONORING THE LIFE OF TO VAN LAI

HON. MICHELLE STEEL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mrs. STEEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of one of my constituents. To Van Lai of Westminster lived a truly vibrant life and touched the lives of Vietnamese communities in Orange County and around the world.

After working as a university professor, To Van Lai established Thuy Nga Productions in Saigon, bringing the joy of music to the people of Vietnam.

When the communist government there banned his work, he took his company to France. There, he produced his most well-known and beloved work: *Paris by Night*, a renowned variety show that has brought Vietnamese entertainment to homes around the world.

Throughout his career, he valued the history, language, and tradition of the Vietnamese people.

He believed deeply that "If you still have the Vietnamese language, then you still haven't lost the people." To Van Lai's life reminds us to treasure and honor the rich heritage and culture of our Vietnamese communities.

My prayers are with his family during this difficult time. May his memory of preserving the heritage of our Vietnamese neighbors live on, and may he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING OFFICER TONY BREEDEN ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the dedicated service of Police Officer Tony Breeden who will officially retire this year.

Tony was born in Winchester, Virginia, where he and his family lived for 2 years. His family later moved to Charlotte, N.C. where he attended Myers Park High School graduating in 1988. Upon graduating from High School, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps where he served from 1988 to 1992.

After spending four years in the Marine Corps, he then joined the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Department where he worked for 2 years, until joining the Rock Hill Police Department in 1995 through 2022.

He rose through the ranks beginning with the traffic unit, sergeant of the street crimes unit, patrol Lieutenant of Charlie Shift, and member of the highly decorated SWAT team unit for 26 years serving from 1996 to 2022.

Officer Breeden found time to serve the greater Rock Hill community by coaching various sports for over 27 years at his church and in the city leagues, dating back to 1995.

Tony and his wife, Brooke, have 3 children Austin, Kolby, and Devin. Officer Breeden is

the epitome of the American success story, where he has risen above many personal challenges, including having his father leave his family when Tony was 5 years of age. He and his brother and sister were left to be raised by a single mother.

The greatest tragedy the Breeden family has faced was the sudden loss of their son Kolby on March 14th, 2021. In the words of one of Kolby's closest friends, Julianne Young, "Kolby was the epitome of good. He not only lit up every room he walked in but made everyone in that room a better person just by spending time with them."

The Rock Hill Police Department and the greater Rock Hill community will lose a true public servant who epitomized the police officer motto of "To Protect And To Serve".

Lieutenant Tony Breeden has set the Gold Standard for 27 years of dedicated service and commitment which will long be remembered and for that we all join in saying Thank You.

RECOGNIZING THE UPPER PENINSULA LUGE CLUB OF NEGAUNEE, MICHIGAN

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Upper Peninsula Luge Club (UPLC) of Negaunee, Michigan for all their accomplishments this past year. A non-profit organization, UPLC has been serving their Yooper community for over forty years with the goal of promoting the sport throughout the region. Through their commitment to excellence and inclusivity, UPLC creates a fun, safe, and accessible activity during the long winter season of the Upper Peninsula.

Built circa 1990 by Swedish Civil Engineer, Per Vinberg, the Lucy Hill Naturbahn Luge Track is the only full-length natural luge track in the United States. In addition to maintaining and operating the track, members of the UPLC help introduce Yoopers to the sport and provide instruction for new sledders, as well as participate in community events like Negaunee's annual Heikki Lunta Winter Festival. On top of promoting local lugging, the UP Luge Club supports a national competition team that competes all over the world—including the FIL Junior World Cup in Latzfons, Italy. They also host U.S. athletes that come to the course to train before going to World Cup and World Championship Competitions in Europe. Through more than four decades of dedication to the sport and their local community, the UPLC has become an indispensable part of the Upper Peninsula.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Upper Peninsula Luge Club for their contributions and service to Michigan. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

REMEMBERING THE 2ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE AUGUST 4, 2020 BEIRUT PORT EXPLOSION

HON. DARIN LaHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. LaHOOD. Madam Speaker, on August 4, 2020, a large amount of ammonium nitrate stored at the Port of Beirut in the capital city of Lebanon exploded, causing more than 220 deaths, 7,000 injuries, at least \$15 billion in property damage, and leaving an estimated 300,000 people homeless. Two years have passed and yet there is no closure for the families of the victims, and many are left behind to bear the burden of rebuilding their lives and their communities.

The United States Congress, the Administration, the Lebanese-American community, and many others worldwide responded with significant food, and humanitarian assistance, medical equipment, and reconstruction supplies. Today the need has only magnified given the continued obstruction by corruption and political instability—preventing an open judicial investigation.

The Lebanese diaspora community, the families of the victims, and the international donors urge the Lebanese government to enforce the calls from the United Nations, the International Support Group, and the American government, to move swiftly and effectively to complete the investigation and bring those guilty to justice. Lebanon needs a free, independent, and legitimate judicial system and government. Committing to conclude the investigation will serve as a major step in freeing the courts from the political entanglements and pressures that have for too long impeded justice and fairness in Lebanese society.

As the co-chair of the U.S.-Lebanon Friendship Caucus, which allows members of Congress to learn and engage on important issues related to the U.S.-Lebanon relationship, I ask all Members to join me in remembering those who died in the tragic blast as well as those survivors who depend on the comfort and support of others to maintain hope for the future of Lebanon. We urge the caretaker Lebanese government to remove the political impediments brought by others so that a complete and thorough investigation can be concluded, and that justice will prevail.

HONORING MIKE JORDAN

HON. ROBIN L. KELLY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Madam Speaker, today we honor the hard work and dedication of Illinoisan Mike Jordan.

Whereas, Mike Jordan is retiring from his position on July 31, 2022 after serving as a State Farm Insurance agent for 43 years in Chicago's South Suburbs;

Whereas, Mike Jordan has been uplifted throughout his career by his wife, Patricia, and daughter Allison;

Whereas, Mike Jordan always greets people with a smile on his face, a bounce in his step, and an eagerness to offer whatever help he can;

Whereas, Mike Jordan is active in his local community of Park Forest, striving to improve the village by serving on the community's Economic Development Advisory Group as the Vice Chairperson and as a member of the St. Irenaeus Catholic Parish Finance Committee;

Whereas, Mike Jordan's relationship with former President Barack Obama led him to encourage the former President to pursue the Presidency; and was active in former President Barack Obama's campaigns for U.S. Senator and his two runs for the Presidency;

Whereas, he has always sought to exceed his clients' highest expectations, including by visiting a business owner's business to inquire about storm and rain damage before the business owner had time to initiate a request for service;

Whereas, Mike Jordan kindly offered a ride home to a client after the client was involved in a late-night automobile accident; and the client said "It's not the policy. I just have the best insurance agent in the world!";

Whereas, Mike Jordan is humble about his widespread influence on his community and his church, and serves as a mentor and advisor to many fortunate people across the United States;

Whereas, he has positively impacted so many people's lives and helped countless families;

Whereas, Mike Jordan ends every conversation in which he is engaged with an expression of gratitude; and now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the House of Representatives of the United States of America that the hard work and service of Mike Jordan be remembered and honored.

OBSERVING THE PASSING OF DR. LOUISE BERRY

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a mother to her community, Dr. Louise Berry of Danielson, Connecticut. Throughout her long life, Louise trail blazed a new standard of what it means to be a model citizen. Her impact on Eastern Connecticut is outsized and her legacy has been woven into the very fabric of our region.

Born in November 1927, to Frances and Jacob Spaulding, Louise was raised within a family with a centuries-long history and just as deep roots tied to Northeastern Connecticut. Also raised among six brothers, she of course from a young age was instilled with the strength of self-advocacy. In 1945, Louise graduated from Killingly High School and attended school at Adelphi University, earning her Nursing degree in 1948. Louise continued her education at the University of Connecticut, earning a bachelor's degree in Zoology in 1952 and a Master's in Guidance and Counseling in 1961. Ever a hard worker with a penchant for learning, Louise returned to school in the late 1970's, and by 1980 she had earned her Juris Doctor from the UConn School of Law.

Returning to 1952, however, Louise then picked up work within her community, serving as a school nurse at Killingly Memorial School until 1955. After bringing the first two of five

children into the world, she returned to school nursing at Brooklyn School in 1958, sparking a career which would forever reshape the trajectory of Brooklyn, Eastern Connecticut and our Nation as a whole. With her characteristic can-do attitude and determination, Louise set out on a path to become the most diversified and experienced staff in the Brooklyn school system, serving as a Guidance Counselor, Director of Instruction, and finally as Superintendent. Louise would serve as Superintendent for 36 years, the longest serving Superintendent in Connecticut history.

Though it is of course difficult to encapsulate the entirety of her tenure as superintendent, Louise used her position to pioneer programs and mold the field of education to her vision, for the better. Specific examples include her creating the first rural Head-Start program in the country and initiating one of the first preschool-for-all programs before it became the national norm. Such is why the Louise S. Berry Early Childhood Center at the Brooklyn School was dedicated in her name. Even the road leading into the schools of Brooklyn is named after her legacy, a reminder of just how important a community-based education was to Louise.

As if the impact of her leadership within Brooklyn schools was not impressive enough in its own right, Louise was of course also very active in her town's community up to the very end. Her long record of civic involvement existed as a dual track next to her career in public education, beginning with her election to the Town of Killingly Board of Education in 1966. Just a few short years later, her capacity for leadership earned her the position of chairwoman of the local board of education in the 1970s. She served on countless additional boards impacting the community in Northeastern Connecticut, including Day Kimball Hospital, Eastern Connecticut Development Council, Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents, and the UConn Board of Trustees, to name a few.

Louise also played a crucial role in the establishment of Quinebaug Valley Community College, lobbying with her husband Richard to bring the college into existence in 1971—just more than 50 years ago today. Over the past half-century, Quinebaug has grown to exist as an epicenter of education in the Northeastern part of the state, having accredited thousands of students in higher education, regardless of age. With this well-developed record of advocacy on behalf of her community, Louise unknowingly put herself on a path to serving the region in a higher official capacity, particularly after volunteering on the discovery committee to recruit a 29th State Senate District candidate for the 1972 election. Little did Louise know at that moment that the exact same committee would end up choosing her as their recruit, ultimately causing her to run, win, and serve as one of three women in the Connecticut General Assembly's 36-seat State Senate. Madam Speaker, having chaired and sat as a member on several Connecticut General Assembly Committees including the Public Health and Safety Committee and the Education Committee, State Senator Berry at that moment was once again operating as a trail-blazer—a successful woman in leadership—breaking some of the glass in the ceiling so that others could follow in her footsteps to leave their community better than they found it.

Louise's excellence came from her being able to tackle multiple projects at once. Between all her many professional commitments, she made certain to stay dedicated to her family. A world traveler, Louise loved to vacation with her family in New Hampshire, Asia and everywhere in between. Though her legacy clearly would do fine on its own, we have her five surviving children including Donald, Pamela, Robin, Christopher and Robin to extend her memory and example of community service into future Spaulding-Berry generations.

Madam Speaker, Louise remains a towering figure in the history of Eastern Connecticut. It is for that very reason that, just like her children, we in Congress also have a responsibility to solidify the power of her life record. Though we are saddened by the void left by her passing, we know the region will continue to honor her as countless new leaders of both current and future generations continue to step into positions of action in her name. Those positions will exist in boundless form; from new state senators to new teachers, or even to those who base a life, career and family in Eastern Connecticut after gaining their foundations from the region—regardless, they will all contribute to their community in part because of Louise's life work. To these ends, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring Dr. Louise Berry, a steward to her community and model citizen, setting her name further into stone.

HONORING AND CONGRATULATING
THE SERVICE OF LT. COL. TIMOTHY S. SULLIVAN

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Lieutenant Colonel Timothy S. Sullivan and congratulate him on his retirement from the United States Air Force. Lt. Col. Sullivan serves as the Force Support Squadron Commander for the 131st Bomb Wing at Whiteman Air Force Base. As the lead evaluator pilot in both the B-2 and T-38 aircraft, Lt. Col. Sullivan is responsible for the development and implementation of the B-2 Operations Group yearly flying and ground training programs for both active duty and Air National Guard. His outstanding effort on a wide variety of projects and major programs have greatly impacted the United States Air Force, and the great state of Missouri.

Lt. Col. Sullivan is a distinguished graduate of the University of Missouri Reserve Officer Training Cadet (ROTC) program where he began his military career eighteen years ago. He is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Weapons School Instructor course and is a command pilot with more than 3,200 flying hours in the T-37, T-38, and B-2 aircraft. Lt. Col. Sullivan is also a B-2 instructor and evaluator pilot with combat experience in operation Odyssey Lightning. He and his wife are the parents of two sons.

As an officer in the U.S. Air Force, Lt. Col. Sullivan continues to serve this nation with integrity and honor, always giving back to his country, community, and family. He is a passionate advocate for ending the military sui-

cide epidemic and has gone above and beyond organizing events outside of work hours to connect those who are hurting with hope and healing through faith in Jesus Christ. His extraordinary talent and determination have led him to win various awards and recognition, including the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, and the Meritorious Service Medal, among many others. It is a great honor to recognize the dedicated service of Lt. Col. Timothy S. Sullivan. Please join me in congratulating him for many years of service to our Nation and to the United States Air Force.

HONORING CAM SHOLLY, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT

HON. LIZ CHENEY

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Ms. CHENEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Yellowstone National Park Superintendent Cameron (Cam) Sholly and his staff for the outstanding leadership they demonstrated in the face of a crisis situation, and to recognize their tireless efforts to address the needs of Yellowstone National Park and the surrounding communities after the devastating flooding that took place there on June 13, 2022.

Cam and his staff went above and beyond in service to the communities surrounding the park, even those not directly affected by the flooding. During the weeks following the flood, they held public virtual meetings with community stakeholders, oftentimes daily, to ensure the health, safety, and requirements of the people and businesses were being met. These meetings served as an opportunity to collaborate on effective ways to reopen and provide admittance to the park. Cam and his team also worked closely with the Wyoming Congressional Delegation and with state officials to ensure transparency throughout the cleanup and reopening processes. They all continue to check in with businesses and chambers of commerce in the communities several times a week to ensure that any outstanding issues are being addressed.

Cam is a third-generation park service manager and began his National Park Service Career in 1990. He assumed duties as the Superintendent of Yellowstone National Park in October of 2018. Yellowstone is one of the largest national park operations in the world spanning 2.2 million acres and receiving over 4 million visits each year. The park has a team of over 1,000 employees and volunteers. Cam was awarded the Superintendent of the Year Award for the Southeast Region in 2011 and the Department of Interior's Meritorious Achievement Award in 2015 for his wide-ranging executive leadership actions. Cam is also a veteran of the U.S. Army and deployed to Operation Desert Storm in 1991.

I express my most sincere thanks and admiration to Cam and his staff for their responsiveness and dedication to Wyoming and the communities surrounding Yellowstone National Park. Their exemplary service should serve as the gold standard for all governmental agencies.

HONORING THE ANNIVERSARY OF
THE FOUNDING OF HUNTINGTON
HIGH SCHOOL IN NEWPORT
NEWS, VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Huntington High School on the anniversary of its founding more than 100 years ago.

Located on the Virginia Peninsula, Huntington High School was opened in 1920 as the first public high school for African-American youth in the city of Newport News. The school was named in honor of Collis Potter Huntington, founder of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company and a developer of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad, which he helped bring to Newport News.

Huntington High School began as a class of just 52 students with one teacher in a small room at John Marshall Elementary School. The school eventually moved to its own four-room building on 18th Street in Newport News. The school continued to expand adding four additional rooms, making the structure two stories high. Huntington High School's growth eventually required additional staff as well as the construction of a new campus on Orcutt Avenue that was completed in 1936. Additions were made to that new building in 1945, 1947, and 1949.

Huntington's "Mighty Vikings" excelled in academics, sports, and music and helped earn Huntington a reputation as one of the most outstanding schools in Virginia. The spirited marching bands were renowned for their famous "Viking Call," which could be heard throughout the neighborhood. The 48th and final class graduated in 1971, ending Huntington High School's five decades of fostering community hope, unity, and pride. It's proud name and tradition continued on as an intermediate school for eighth and ninth grades, and in 1981 the school's storied building on Orcutt Avenue became Huntington Middle School, serving students in sixth through eighth grade.

Madam Speaker, as the Newport News community gathers to celebrate over 100 years since Huntington's founding, I want to congratulate the alumni of this historic school and the work they have done to serve the City of Newport News and the greater Hampton Roads community.

IN MEMORY OF ZAHRA ABBAS

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, Michigan has lost an incredible human being. Zahra Abbas was brilliant, compassionate, and full of love for community. Please join me in honoring her memory.

Zahra lived with epilepsy, which she learned to control with the use of cannabis. Her epilepsy and her personal journey in advocating her herself inspired her work to educate others and advocate for access to health care and

the use of alternative approaches. Zahra founded and became the chair of the Cannabis Caucus for Michigan Democratic Party.

Zahra spoke passionately about the issues she believed in at rallies, community meetings, and meetings with other political leaders across the state of Michigan and the nation. She was a relentless advocate for fair, sensible and just cannabis law reform. Her work impacted the lives of so many across our state.

Please join me in recognizing the Zahra Abbas, our lion-hearted advocate with a radiant smile, as we honor her memory.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF BOB SAKATA

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the generosity and patriotism of agricultural trailblazer Bob Sakata, who passed away on June 7, 2022, at the age of 96. Bob's life encapsulated the American principles of perseverance, endurance, and courage. Through his innovation and dedication, Bob left an indelible mark upon the Colorado community.

In 1941, when the U.S. declared war against Japan, Bob and his family were sent to an internment camp in Topaz, Utah. With the assistance of his former high school teacher, who vouched for his character, Bob obtained an early release from the internment camp and relocated to Brighton, Colorado, where he worked on a dairy farm. In 1944, Bob's employer loaned him the money to purchase 40 acres of farmland in Brighton. This land paved the way for Bob and his family to start a new life following World War II.

Bob became a giant in Colorado's agricultural industry and was renowned for his innovation in sweet corn growing. He transformed the industry in the 1980s with creative methods in seed development, consumer packaging, and the introduction of Sakata Farms Gourmet Sweet Corn. Through a dedicated work ethic and the assistance of his loving wife Joanna, Bob's farm would eventually grow from 40 acres to more than 3000 acres. Bob's agricultural knowledge resulted in two presidential nominations to the Advisory Board of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

As his farm and fame grew, Bob remained dedicated to giving back to his community. He served fifteen years on Colorado's Water Quality Control Commission, working collaboratively to find ways to address water shortages impacting Colorado's farmers. Bob's ingenuity and charity led to his induction into the Colorado Business Hall of Fame and the Colorado Agriculture Hall of Fame. Over the years, Bob was a member of the Colorado State University Extension Advisory Board, Colorado's Food Safety Task Force, the Brighton Rotary Club, and the Brighton First Presbyterian Church. Furthermore, Bob spearheaded the campaign to build the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism in Washington, D.C.

Bob Sakata is an example of the American dream. On behalf of the Fourth District of Colorado, it is my honor to recognize his many

accomplishments and his legacy of generosity, faith, courage, and perseverance.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, July 28, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: NAY on Roll Call Number 402, and NAY on Roll Call Number 403.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MAJOR EARL "RUSTY" LESLIE RUSSELL, USA (RET.)

HON. RONNY JACKSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. JACKSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Major Earl "Rusty" Leslie Russell, USA, Ret. Rusty exemplified the American fighting spirit. He lived his life honorably through serving his country, loving his family and friends, and devoting himself to his faith. Rusty embodied the bravery, honor, and patriotism of what it means to be an American.

Born January 25, 1944, at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, Rusty was a man of many talents, interests, and pursuits. Most importantly, he was a loving husband, father, brother, uncle, and a man of God.

At his core, Rusty was a deeply patriotic person. He began his military career in middle school in the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) and continued to serve in the ROTC throughout his high school and college years. In September 1966, upon graduation from Fort Hays State University, Rusty received his commission as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. Soon afterwards, Rusty attended the Army Aviation Center and School at Fort Rucker, Alabama, where he earned his pilot wings. He served two tours in Vietnam (1967–68 and 1971–72) where he flew reconnaissance missions and aligned artillery.

During these intense combat tours, Rusty earned the following military honors: Distinguished Flying Cross with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star, Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Meritorious Unit Citation, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with 7 Bronze Service Stars, Cross of Gallantry with Silver Star, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal with Palm. In 1975, having attained the rank of Major, Rusty was honorably discharged from the United States Army.

Following his military career, Rusty and his wife, Jan, opened a real estate firm, Hallmark Homes, in Manhattan, Kansas. In 1982, the opportunity arose to join Edward Jones as a Financial Advisor. Without a backup plan, Rusty and Jan decided to move their family to Gainesville, Texas, to start their new adventure. Throughout his quarter-century career with Edward Jones, Rusty was valued as a trusted advisor, educator, confidante, and mentor.

Rusty was civic minded and generous with both his time and financial blessings. He served his community by participating on several boards including the Gainesville Municipal Airport Board, the North Texas Medical Center Board, the First United Methodist Church Board, the State Bar of Texas Ethics Committee Board, and the Longhorn Council. Rusty was also an active member of the Gainesville Masonic Lodge No. 210 where he served as Past Master.

A lifelong supporter of the Boy Scouts of America, Rusty earned the rank of Eagle Scout and later in life, the Order of the Arrow's Vigil Honor. He served as leader of Gainesville's Troop 668 for many years, mentoring new generations of Scouts. He lived his life according to Scout Law, to be: Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent.

Rusty will be truly missed by everyone he met and by the community he so deeply affected. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Jan, and their son, Lee. Rusty was a friend to all, and I join his family, friends, and the people of Gainesville, Texas in celebrating Major Russell's life and legacy.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF MT. ZION CHURCH OF ONTARIO

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mrs. TORRES of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of Mt. Zion Church—a pillar of the Ontario community and the Inland Empire region.

Since Mt. Zion's founding in 1922, the church has stood resolute to its values by advocating for civil rights and supporting the growth of Ontario and the community. Over the past century, Mt. Zion has witnessed events like the Great Depression, the desegregation of the Ontario Police and Fire Departments, and much more. Through it all, the church has been a source of peace and security to our community. Mt. Zion continues to pour into the people of the Inland Empire with their food assistance, preschool, and their English as a Second language programs. Now more than ever, their compassion is needed as our nation faces unique challenges.

Under Pastor Kennedy's leadership, Mt. Zion has kept our community together and provided critical services during a pandemic that has rippled through our lives. Mt. Zion is a source of comfort for many families who have experienced loss during the pandemic and reminds me of what it looks like to support the working families in the Inland Empire.

Partners in the Inland Empire community like Mt. Zion, Senior Pastor Dr. Brian E. Kennedy and his wife Lady Hilda Kennedy are invaluable as we try to fix the issues facing Ontario and our region. I will continue working with the Mt. Zion community to bring further opportunities and support to our home and neighbors.

For the remarkable and incalculable contributions to our community, it is my honor to recognize the 100th anniversary of Mt. Zion Church of Ontario. The church's decades of

service and support to the people of the Inland Empire is worthy of the highest commendation.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF
ROSEMARY O'NEILL

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life of Rosemary O'Neill, who dedicated her life and career to public service.

A native of Cambridge, Massachusetts, and daughter of former Speaker of the House, Thomas "Tip" and Millie O'Neill, Rosemary was born on March 20, 1943. Following in the family tradition of public service and diplomacy, Rosemary first began what would be an extensive career with the Department of State as special assistant to George Feldman, Ambassador of Malta and Luxembourg, shortly after graduating from Dunbarton College of the Holy Cross. Rosemary then continued to work at the Department of State's headquarters in Washington, D.C. for several years, before receiving her posting as a foreign service officer in Morocco in 1980.

In 1992, Rosemary was elected chair of the Secretary of State's Open Forum, and was tasked with supervising the Open Forum Channel, monitoring the Dissent Channel, and managing the Open Forum's Speaker Program. The Secretary of State's Open Forum was established in 1967 to encourage U.S. government employees to share new or alternative policy recommendations with the Secretary of State in a confidential manner, free of bureaucratic restraints. Under Rosemary's leadership and guidance, the Speaker's Program and Open Forum Working Group on Conflict Resolution, Civil Society, and Democracy flourished.

An advocate for strong American Irish relations, Rosemary served as advisor to the Department of State's Director of Policy Planning on Northern Ireland. Even in retirement, Rosemary continued her relationship with the Northern Ireland Women's Coalition and often travelled to her family's ancestral home of Mallow, County Cork, serving as the Grand Marshall of Mallow's St. Patrick's Day Parade in 2017. Whether travelling to the USSR to promote human rights for individuals with disabilities or working to establish the State Department's Afghan Women's Program to advance educational opportunities for women and girls throughout Afghanistan—Rosemary dedicated her life and career to bettering the lives of all, across the globe.

After a remarkable career as a Foreign Service Officer, Rosemary retired in 2004. However, retirement did not stop her from continuing to help and support those in her community. Rosemary went on to serve as Chair of the Board of the Family Pantry of Cape Cod and on the Harwich Democratic Committee. Surrounded by family and loved ones, Rosemary left us too soon on July 20, 2022, at the age of 79. Rosemary's legacy will carry on through the lasting impact she left on the lives of so many through her work advancing women's rights and advocating for underrepresented and underserved groups.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Rosemary O'Neill. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing her life's commitment to serving her community and country.

HONORING RICK JOHNSON

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Mr. Rick Johnson from his position as Executive Director of the Old Monterey Business Association and Administrator of the Lighthouse District. After more than twenty years of dedicated service, Mr. Johnson is the longest serving leader of any business association, not just on the Central Coast, but in the state of California.

The Old Monterey Business Association strives to promote Old Monterey's economic vitality and preserve its community spirit, as well as enhance its one-of-a-kind downtown. The Lighthouse District is home to the Monterey Bay Aquarium and over 100 intriguing specialty shops, restaurants, and nightlife establishments.

Born in Minnesota, Mr. Johnson was stationed at the Defense Language Institute at the Presidio of Monterey in 1968 at the age of 19. After retiring from the U.S. Army, Mr. Johnson began his civilian career in Monterey, earning \$1.35 an hour at the Regency Theatre on Alvarado Street. After briefly leaving the Central Coast to pursue higher education, he returned to Monterey and continued to foster strong relationships in the community.

Mr. Johnson's expertise and knowledge of the Central Coast, paired with his sense of humor, served him well during his time with the Old Monterey Business Association and the Lighthouse District. In his capacity, he frequently provided the Business Association with in-depth knowledge of government infrastructure and local businesses, guided decision making, and oversaw the day-to-day relations between hundreds of local businesses and city government. Mr. Johnson is no stranger to disaster, and led the business community through flooding, a 2007 fire on Alvarado Street, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Time and time again, Mr. Johnson's leadership served as a catalyst for positive engagement and economic recovery and improvement.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mr. Rick Johnson for his decades of service. His leadership and dedication to public service have shaped Monterey and greatly influenced the role of the Business Association in the community. I extend my personal appreciation to Mr. Rick Johnson and his dedication to our local economy and business community.

CELEBRATING FORGOTTEN STAR
BREWING CO.

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Forgotten Star Brewing Company for winning multiple awards at the 2022 U.S. Open Beer Championship. Forgotten Star received two gold medals and two silver medals and was recognized as one of America's Top Ten Breweries earlier this month.

Every year, hundreds of breweries around the country compete across 150 categories of beer. A panel of experts judge these submissions and names the country's best beers. Forgotten Star won gold medals for their Bonspiel Bock and Nut N' Honey Nut Ale, and they won silver medals for their Schwarzbier and Northstar Cream Ale. By winning these medals, they were also selected as one of the ten best breweries nationwide.

Forgotten Star Brewing Company was founded in November 2019 by Matt Asay and Andy Risvold, and Mr. Asay serves as Head Brewer. The brewery is located in the historic Northern Pump Company factory, which produced Navy ship guns during World War II. That company was one of only eight nationwide that received superior recognition from the U.S. federal government for "Excellence in Production." Forgotten Star is proud to carry on their legacy of excellence.

Although I do not drink myself, I have deep appreciation for Forgotten Star's craft and artistry. My constituents tell me these awards are well-deserved, and I join them in celebrating Forgotten Star's success at the U.S. Open Beer Championship.

CONWAY COUNTY FAMILY FARM
OF THE YEAR

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2022 Conway County Family Farm of the Year, the Stobaugh Brother Family Farm.

Right off Highway 64, the Stobaugh family has been operating their family farm since the 1950s, producing soybeans, rice, and corn over 6,000 acres of land.

Known for their first-class quality of crops, the Stobaugh's continue to utilize traditional farming methods while welcoming advancements in agricultural technology. These advancements include weather stations throughout the farm, and innovative irrigation system, and computerized calculations to ensure efficiency.

Despite labor shortages and the rising inflation currently plaguing our agricultural industry, the Stobaugh's continue to produce staple goods for many to enjoy at their dinner table.

Congratulations to the Stobaughs and I thank them for being part of the family farms that feed 86 percent of what feeds American families every night.

HONORING WESTON VIVIAN

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and legacy of Weston Vivian. His contributions to the Ann Arbor community and the nation are worthy of commendation.

Weston was born in Newfoundland in 1924, but grew up in Rhode Island after moving to the United States at the age of five. He enlisted in the Navy V-12 College Training Program, which enabled him to earn his bachelor's degree and master's degree in electrical engineering. After attending Union College and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, his education culminated with a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the University of Michigan in 1959. While working toward his Ph.D., Weston was involved in many tech start-ups as well as research and lecturing at the University of Michigan. He was also the Chairman of the Ann Arbor City Democratic Committee from 1959 to 1961.

After establishing himself as a dedicated leader within the Ann Arbor community, Weston was the first professional engineer elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1964. Throughout his term, Weston immersed himself in several landmark movements. In February 1965, he traveled to Selma, Alabama with a congressional delegation to meet with Martin Luther King, Jr. Even in just one term, he worked closely with my husband, John Dingell, to pass the Voting Rights Act and the Social Security Amendments, eventually leading to the creation of Medicare and Medicaid.

Weston will be remembered as a dedicated public servant who committed his life to making Michigan a better place. Even after leaving Congress, Weston remained active in bettering his community. He volunteered his time working to advance science and technology, served as a faculty member at the University of Michigan, and served on the Michigan Transportation Commission from 1978 to 1987. He routinely participated in the Ann Arbor Independence Day Parade and Ann Arbor Art Fair, and he spent his free time sailing across the Great Lakes. After moving out of his house and into a senior living center in 2011, his home was converted into the Ann Arbor Area Nature Preserve office—a testament to his appreciation of our great outdoors.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the life of Weston Vivian and extending my heartfelt condolences to his surviving family. I am proud to honor his legacy as a talented educator, scientist, and devoted public servant.

HONORING SERGEANT MICHAEL
"MICKEY" BLACKMON**HON. RONNY JACKSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. JACKSON. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to honor Sergeant Michael "Mickey" Blackmon of the Potter County Sheriffs Office

as he retires after 48 years in law enforcement. For the last 19 years, Sgt. Blackmon has served the fine people of Potter County with distinction. I know I speak for his colleagues at the Potter County Sheriffs Office, and for the entire community, when I say we are grateful for his service and wish him well in retirement.

Sgt. Blackmon's career has been defined by service. Particularly as Crime Prevention Sergeant for the Sheriff's Office, he has made an important mark through his instruction of the Potter County Citizens Academy, Student Academies, safety classes, and CRASE. Sgt. Blackmon has also been a familiar face to the community as he kept us safe at hockey games, car shows, local schools, and many other local events.

Sgt. Blackmon will be missed, but thankfully he isn't going far. He is described as an inspiration to law enforcement and a great friend to many. Even though Sgt. Blackmon is retiring, his legacy will live on through the countless people he trained in his classes and seminars, and though the positive impact he had on residents daily for so many years.

I wish Sgt. Blackmon the very best as he retires and enters this next chapter, and I thank him for his dedicated service to the people of West Texas.

HONORING SUMNER COUNTY
MAYOR ANTHONY HOLT ON HIS
RETIREMENT**HON. JOHN W. ROSE**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor a great Tennessean and public servant, Sumner County Mayor Anthony Holt.

Mayor Holt was born in 1956 and spent his childhood in the Neely's Bend area of Madison, TN, in Davidson County. In 1974, he graduated from Madison High School in Madison, Tennessee. From there he went on to attend college and graduate with cum laude distinction from the University of Memphis in 1980, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration.

Thirty years later he decided to continue his formal education by earning his Certified Public Administrator certificate from the University of Tennessee, even though I'm sure he could have written the textbook by then. Mayor Holt retired from American Airlines in 2008 after holding various financial and accounting roles during his tenure there. Additionally, he has owned and operated a number of small businesses throughout his time living in Sumner County.

For eighteen years, from 1990 to 2008, he served as a Sumner County Commissioner and was on the Planning Commission for the county during much of that time. In 2008, Anthony Holt was elected to be the Sumner County Mayor during a special election. He was the perfect man for the job. Now, with his retirement on the horizon at the end of August of this year, he will be ending his fourth term in office as county mayor, serving a total of fourteen years in that position.

During his time as county mayor he has represented Sumner County well and in many different capacities, including membership on

the following: the Greater Nashville Regional Council (GNRC), serving as president from 2019 to 2021; the Regional Transportation Authority and Audit Committee; the Transportation Policy Board (TPB)/Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO); the Mid-Cumberland Human Resource Agency; the Tennessee Central Economic Authority; the Middle Tennessee Workforce Board; the Sumner Regional Medical Center Board; the Middle Tennessee Mayors' Caucus; the Forward Sumner Economic Partnership Board; and the Emergency Communications Center Board.

Mayor Holt has received numerous distinctions and awards for his service, including most recently the title of Mayor of the Year for 2021 from the Council of Governments. Receiving this award for his laudable crises management of the Covid-19 pandemic and tireless leadership as Sumner County Mayor in 2021, during what was arguably one of the most difficult years in which to govern in modern history, speaks volumes about Mayor Holt.

On his retirement from Sumner County government, he will be starting a new career as the Executive Director of the Association of County Mayors for the State of Tennessee. In this new capacity, he hopes to visit all 95 counties in Tennessee to better understand the needs of county mayors throughout the Volunteer State.

He has faithfully served the good people of Sumner County, and now he will have an opportunity to serve the whole state. I am sure that he will do a tremendous job—as always—and his experience and passion for public service will be a shining example for all those lucky enough to cross his path.

Mayor Anthony Holt deserves our undying gratitude for the highly effectual and ethical service he has delivered for Sumner County, Tennessee, and he certainly has my personal thanks and warm well wishes for a job extremely well done. I congratulate him on reaching this milestone in his career and life and on the beginning of his next professional chapter of service. I wish him and his wife Carla well in their future, and hope they enjoy spending more time traveling and working on their farm in Sumner County.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK POCAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2022

Mr. POCAN. Madam Speaker, I was not present for 6 Roll Call votes in the House on Tuesday evening, July 26, 2022. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 388, H.R. 6552 the "Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2022"; YEA on Roll Call No. 389, H.R. 7289 the "Federal PFAS Research Evaluation Act"; YEA on Roll Call No. 390, H.R. 3588 the "Mathematical and Statistical Modeling Education Act"; YEA on Roll Call No. 391, H.R. 7180, the "Brycen Gray and Ben Price COVID-19 Cognitive Research Act"; YEA on Roll Call No. 392, H.R. 8454 the "Medical Marijuana and Cannabidiol Research Expansion Act"; and YEA on Roll Call No. 393, H.R. 7734 the "Timely Delivery of Bank Secrecy Act Reports Act".