

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2023 CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG/BUNDESRAT EXCHANGE

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, since 1983, the U.S. Congress (House and Senate) and the German Bundestag and Bundesrat have conducted an annual exchange program for staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and engage in discussion regarding mutual interest.

A staff delegation from the U.S. Congress will be selected to visit Germany from Friday, June 30–Sunday, July 9, 2023. During this exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag/Bundesrat party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic and media agencies.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States from Saturday, October 21–Monday, October 30, 2023. They will attend similar meetings in Washington organized by the members of the U.S. delegation.

The Congress-Bundestag/Bundesrat Exchange is highly regarded in Germany and the United States and is one of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. This exchange is funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

The U.S. delegation shall consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag reciprocates by sending senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern to the United States and Germany such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues. This year's delegation should be familiar with transatlantic relations within the context of recent world events.

Please note that there is a significant time commitment aspect for those selected for the program. In addition, U.S. participants are expected to plan and implement the meetings and programs for the Bundestag/Bundesrat staff members when they visit the United States.

Members of the House and Senate who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a resume and cover letter

in which they state their qualifications, the contributions they can make to a successful program and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated.

The completion of two vaccinations and proof of vaccination may be required with the traveler's passport dependent on the destination country's COVID protocols.

Applications should be sent to the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs, HC-4, the Capitol, by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 10, 2023. Please submit the application and any questions to interparliamentary.affairs@mail.house.gov.

REMOVING A CERTAIN MEMBER FROM A CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 2, 2023

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H. Res. 76—Removing a certain Member from a certain standing committee of the House.

H. Res. 76 is a brazen, hypocritical and offensive effort to oust Rep. OMAR from the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Once again, Speaker MCCARTHY and House Republicans are putting extreme political stunts over solving the actual problems facing the American people.

In modern American history, the punishment of stripping Members of Congress of their committee assignments has been reserved for only the most egregious wrongdoers: those convicted or indicted on corruption, bribery, sexual misconduct, encouraging violence, and other grave charges.

This pure partisan move to strip ILHAN OMAR from her committee is not only a political stunt, but also a blow to the integrity of our democratic institutions and a threat to national security.

We're thankful to Leader JEFFRIES for taking up this fight—if Republicans want to degrade the integrity of the House and its committees, Democrats will always stand up against those efforts.

These antics are meant to suppress the work of OMAR—simply because Republicans in Congress don't like her and her views, all while claiming that they respect and welcome differing opinions.

Questioning someone's objective decision making is the most illegitimate litmus test for serving on a committee.

We know this is true because the Speaker has admitted in a fundraising appeal that he was "firing" her because of her "antics."

Ultimately, this is just the latest chapter in the Speaker's bargain with extreme MAGA Republicans.

The Speaker could not become Speaker without the support of extremist members and removing OMAR from the House Foreign Af-

fairs committee is the price he was all-too-eager to pay.

This is political vengeance for investigating and speaking truth about the twice-impeached former president.

The ramifications for the American public, our national security, and foreign relations are real.

OMAR is an experienced, knowledgeable legislator, who has served on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the House Education and Labor Committee for the past two terms, committees and has lived experience and expertise in.

OMAR is a child survivor of war who lived in a refugee camp. OMAR is the first African-born member to serve as a Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, and brings a wealth of lived experiences to the panel.

Rep. MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE and Rep. PAUL GOSAR were removed from their committees last session on a bipartisan basis for encouraging violence against their colleagues, even after a deadly insurrection.

In February 2021, just a month after she was sworn into Congress, the U.S. House of Representatives voted to censure and remove GREENE from her committee assignments for her many extreme, bigoted, and threatening statements—including her past embrace of conspiracy theories and social media interactions encouraging violence against Democratic officials.

In November 2021, the House voted to censure GOSAR and strip him from his committee assignments after he posted an edited anime video on Twitter that depicted him swinging swords at President Biden and killing Rep. ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ (D-NY). GOSAR said on the House floor that he does not "espouse violence towards anyone," and voluntarily took the video down "out of compassion for those who genuinely felt offense."

GREENE and GOSAR went on to appear at a conference hosted by white nationalist Nick Fuentes in early 2022, prompting widespread condemnation from leaders in both parties.

Sen. TOMMY TUBERVILLE and Rep. MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE are coming under fire for making racist comments during separate Donald Trump rallies over the weekend.

The remarks come on the heels of Trump himself using an anti-Asian slur to refer to Elaine Chao—his former transportation secretary and the wife of Senate Minority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL—and raise questions about whether some Republicans are growing more comfortable using overtly racist rhetoric.

During a rally Saturday night in Minden, Nevada, TUBERVILLE, R-AL, Democrats "want reparations because they think the people that do the crime are owed that," drawing a direct line between crime and African Americans.

On Sunday in Mesa, Arizona, GREENE, R-GA, espoused rhetoric that echoed the "Great Replacement" conspiracy theory long promoted by white nationalists that nonwhite immigrants could eventually displace native-born white Americans.

• 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.

There is simply no comparison here. Doing the right thing should never be a precedent for doing wrong.

And yet, both Reps. MARJORIE TAYLOR GREEN (R-GA) and PAUL GOSAR (R-AZ) have since been reassigned to House committees after being stripped off their panel roles in the Democratic-controlled Congress in 2021.

The House GOP Steering Committee assigned GREENE (R-GA) to the House Homeland Security and Oversight Committees and GOSAR (R-AZ) to the House Natural Resources and Oversight Committees, according to multiple reports, received committee assignments back after being stripped from their assignments in the Democratic-controlled Congress in 2021.

Let's be very clear here: Rep. OMAR immediately apologized when she was told by the Jewish community that her words were hurtful and sought out Members of the Jewish community to learn how she could be an ally in the fight against antisemitism.

Other members of this body however regularly spread antisemitic conspiracy theories, talks about Jewish space lasers, and threatens violence against their colleagues.

While the Republican Party leader and former President dine with open neo-Nazis like Nick Fuentes and vile antisemites like Kanye West.

Trump dined also with Nazis, and said "Jews have to get their act together," and also said to a group of Jewish leaders, "You're brutal killers. Not nice people at all. But you have to vote for me; you have no choice." He never apologized.

We must continue to support Representative OMAR. Her goal is to work for her constituents, and they reelected her to do just that.

Republicans cannot continue with these stunts. We must work on legislation that actually impacts the American people instead of these political stunts that do no good.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ANDREW JACKSON STATUE REMOVAL ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to introduce the Andrew Jackson Statue Removal Act, which would remove the Andrew Jackson statue from Lafayette Park, a federal park in the District of Columbia, and require the Secretary of the Interior to donate the statue to a museum or similar entity. This bill is part of a series of statue and memorial removal bills I am introducing during Black History Month.

The land that comprises Lafayette Park has been used as a racetrack, a showplace for caged animals, a graveyard, a market where enslaved people were sold, an encampment for soldiers and for political protests and celebrations. Jackson was an enslaver and signed a law that forced Native Americans to move west of the Mississippi River. During this forced expulsion by the federal government, roughly 4,000 Cherokee died in what is now known as the Trail of Tears.

The statue, the first in Lafayette Park, was dedicated on January 8, 1853, on the 38th anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans, which the statue depicts. This prominent location in the Nation's capital, right outside of the White House, should never have honored a man who was an unabashed racist, owned enslaved people and authorized the genocide of Native Americans. Jackson's entire tenure is a shameful part of our history and should not be honored with a statue in Lafayette Park.

This bill would direct the Secretary of the Interior to ensure the removal of the statue from Lafayette Park and to donate the statue and marble base to a museum or similar entity so that the statue can be accompanied by the appropriate historical context. The next generation can learn from this painful chapter in our history without celebrating it.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL SHIP FINANCING IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today I re-introduced my "Federal Ship Financing Improvement Act," expanding the Maritime Administration's (MARAD) federal ship financing program—commonly referred to as "Title XI" of the Merchant Marine Act of 1936—to include re-flagging, repair, or conversions of U.S.-flagged civilian vessels for commercial and military purposes.

Currently, MARAD's Title XI program only provides federal loans and loan guarantees for the construction of new civilian vessels in U.S.-based commercial shipyards or facility and equipment upgrades at those shipyards. My bill would allow MARAD to also provide loan guarantees for corrective or preventative maintenance or re-flagging work at U.S.-based shipyards, including to convert a commercial vessel to a more useful military configuration to carry out federal contracts. The bill would also require that all shipyard improvement projects with loans or loan guarantees from MARAD use construction materials produced or manufactured in the United States. In the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92), U.S. Senator TAMMY BALDWIN (D-WI) and I implemented these "Buy America" requirements for MARAD's small shipyard grant program.

As chairman of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness and the former ranking member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, I have long supported our domestic shipbuilding and U.S.-flagged international fleet. The bill I reintroduced today builds upon my work in the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283), in which I helped to secure Congressional authorization for the new tanker security fleet and strengthened the military's US-flagged preference for seaborne cargo

contracts. In the 117th Congress, my "Federal Ship Financing Improvement Act" was partially incorporated as Section 307 of the Chairman's mark of the House's "Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022" (H.R. 6865) but removed from the final law.

Mr. Speaker, American shipyards are ready, willing, and able to take on this additional work. Expanding MARAD's Title XI loan guarantee program to support that work means more well-paying jobs for American workers and better maintained vessels flagged in the United States, useful for military and commercial purposes. I urge all members of the House to cosponsor the "Federal Ship Financing Improvement Act."

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MANUEL PIHAKIS

HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and accomplishments of Manuel Pihakis of Canonsburg, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Pihakis was a man devoted to his faith and community, where he served as a teacher, athletic director, wrestling coach, mayor, and school board member for many years. In and around Canonsburg, he was renowned for his caring nature and generosity.

Born the son of Michael and Sophie Pantely Pihakis in 1933, Manuel graduated from Canonsburg High School in 1952. He starred as a three-time PIAA wrestling champion, finishing high school with an impressive record of 99-1. Upon graduation, he attended Indiana University, earning a degree in 1956. His wrestling success led him to participate in the final Olympic tryouts in 1952 and 1956. Manuel's prowess as a competitor and a coach has cemented his place in the Pittsburgh Sports Hall of Fame, Pennsylvania Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame, Washington-Greene Chapter of Pennsylvania's Hall of Fame, and the Canon-McMillan Hall of Honor.

The years Manuel devoted to his fellow Pennsylvanians have immortalized him among the Canonsburg community. He served on many committees, including the School Board, the Zoning Board, and the Frank Sarris Public Library, among others. Ultimately, he was elected to serve his community as Mayor of Canonsburg. Many looked up to him as an academic, athletic, and spiritual mentor.

In 2013, Manuel retired from coaching to spend more time with his wife, Evelyn Mahramas Pihakis, and his sons, Michael and George. He was strongly devoted to his faith as an active member of the All-Saints Greek Orthodox Church in Canonsburg and was awarded the highest honor a layman of the church may receive—the Archon of the Order of St. Andrew.

Mr. Speaker, Manuel Pihakis is a hometown hero to Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, whose legacy of service to family, faith, and community should inspire all Americans. On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I extend my condolences to Mr. Pihakis's family and wish them healing during this difficult time.

RECOGNIZING KAREN CLIFFORD,
UNICAN OF THE YEAR

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Karen A. Clifford who will be named the UNICAN of the Year by the UNICO National Scranton Chapter at their annual gathering on Saturday, February 25, 2023. As UNICO National celebrates its 100th anniversary this year, the Scranton Chapter has determined that Karen truly embodies the organization's motto of "service above self."

Karen was raised in Scranton, Pennsylvania by her parents, Jane and Philip Clifford, and her godparents, Margaret and Stanley Sienkiewicz. A graduate of Keystone College, Karen spent 33 years of her professional career at Verizon, working in engineering, marketing and the business office. After retiring from Verizon, she continued working with TR Associates as the Vice President of Development.

Karen has dedicated her life to uplifting her fellow citizens and contributing to community service organizations, often holding leadership roles on their boards. She has proudly served as board member and past chairperson for the NET Credit Union and secretary, treasurer and vice chairperson of the Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce. She continues to serve on Skills in Scranton for the Chamber. Currently, Karen serves on the boards of Scranton Counseling Center, La Festa Italiana and St. Francis Kitchen. She is also a past president of Saint Joseph's Foundation and co-president of Saint Joseph's Center Auxiliary.

Karen has been an instrumental force for good through her service with the UNICO National Scranton Chapter. She currently sits on the board of directors for the organization and recently joined the Ladies Auxiliary. She was the first woman to serve as the chair of the UNICO National Convention in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Under her direction, the Hershey convention was the largest in UNICO history.

Karen's commitment to her community does not end with her service on leadership boards. She uses her unparalleled knowledge of local issue and organizations as well as her vast network of Facebook friends to connect people and highlight local small business, fundraisers and good news from the community.

It is an honor to join with the Scranton Chapter of UNICO National to recognize Karen for her contributions to their organization and our community at large. May she continue to find fulfillment and purpose in serving others.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL
ANNIVERSARY OF BOY SCOUT
TROOP 27

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Boy Scout Troop 27 in Fort

Benning, Georgia on the occasion of their centennial celebration. Chartered in January of 1923, Troop 27 is the oldest Boy Scout troop in the Chattahoochee Council and the second oldest in the state of Georgia. They will celebrate 100 years of scouting at their centennial banquet on February 8, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Fort Benning.

Chartered on January 2, 1923, Troop 27 began as a group of 14 boys who conducted their meetings in a dugout on the side of a hill. The Troop was very active, and in addition to working on merit badges, they also volunteered around post selling tickets for the Infantry School Glee Club's winter concert and serving as ushers at the Georgia-Alabama game and at the Post Christmas tree celebration.

Over the last century, Troop 27 has produced outstanding leaders who went on to fight for our country during wartime. In January of 1925, Troop 27 awarded its first Eagle Scout rank to Charles "Tick" Bonesteel III, who would later go on to graduate from the U.S. Military Academy, serve in the U.S. Army during World War II and the Korean War, eventually reaching the rank of four-star General. Three more Scouts in Troop 27 would go on to earn the rank of Eagle in 1925, including Joseph "Cider Joe" Stillwell, Jr. who trained as a Green Beret and served during World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

Truly, service to each other drives the engine that creates a better community, and world, and Boy Scout Troop 27 has a storied legacy of community service in the Chattahoochee Valley. Over the last 100 years, the Troop has produced over 200 Eagle Scouts who have collectively completed thousands of community service hours in support of the greater Columbus community. They collected more than 10 tons of scrap metal around Columbus, Georgia to be repurposed for the war effort during World War II. In the 1960's the Troop continued to serve by manning a holiday roadside rest area, providing refreshments, litter bags, road maps and safety pamphlets to weary travelers. In 1976, Troop 27 hosted the "Slide for Life" at the annual Scout-O-Rama, which was attended by thousands of scouts and Governor Jimmy Carter, who would be elected our Nation's 39th President in November of that year. During the 1990s, Troop 27 conducted numerous service projects, such as collecting food for the hungry, planting trees, collecting clothing for the Salvation Army, and bringing more than 200 dogs to the veterinarian for rabies vaccinations. And last December, the Troop volunteered for National Wreaths Across America, placing hundreds of holiday wreaths at the headstones of veterans at Fort Benning Main Post Cemetery. And I am proud to say that this year, Troop 27 will honor two more Scouts with the Eagle Scout rank.

Scouting has shaped my life and the lives of millions of youth across America by instilling foundational principles of moral character, self reliance, responsibility, leadership, human dignity and service to others. As an Eagle Scout, it brings me great pride to see Troop 27 representing the Boy Scouts of America with such dedication to the values we hold so dear.

For 100 years, the boys and men of Boy Scout Troop 27 have gathered and declared: "On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep

myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight." It is my sincere hope that Troop 27 Scouts will continue to do so for 100 more.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian, and me; and the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's Second District in recognizing Boy Scout Troop 27 of Fort Benning, Georgia for their dedication to scouting and outstanding service to others for over 100 years.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH MILE-
STONE OF MRS. YOLANDA
KELLY HENRY

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding, cherished public servant from my home State of Louisiana who is celebrating her 90th birthday. Mrs. Yolanda Kelly Henry was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, on February 4, 1933. She was raised in Cincinnati, Ohio and later moved to Los Angeles, California. Mrs. Henry eventually returned to New Orleans to make this her home where she and her husband, Clarence "Chink" Henry, Jr. raised their 4 children: Rodney E. Henry, Clarence "Chink" Henry, III, Sherlyn Henry Lambert, and Marvin A. Henry.

Mrs. Henry has been a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated for more than 40 years. She was initiated into the Zeta Theta Chapter in the mid-1970s, at Southern University New Orleans, where she was a full-time student and mother of 4. She was active in the chapter until graduation. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work from SUNO. She immediately enrolled into a master's program at Xavier University of Louisiana, where she received a Master Degree in Counseling.

She counseled many families throughout the Greater New Orleans area during her career at the Office of Community Services, an office of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families. At her precious age, Mrs. Henry has remained an active member of the Pontchartrain Park Neighborhood Association for the past 65 years. Her love of serving her City, the community and others does not stop there. She is a member of the National Black Social Workers Association, the SUNO Alumni Association, and Bethany United Methodist Church Women's Association.

I am humbled to pay tribute to such a great culture community leader and fighter for all, who has done so much to improve the lives of countless residents across my district. So many people's lives are enriched because of the love and passion she expresses daily in touching them along the way. I pray that she remains in good health and continue to spread joy and love to her family, friends and our beloved District. Happy 90th birthday to Mrs. Yolanda Kelly Henry, and may she live to see many more.

RECOGNIZING THE LIMA NOON OPTIMIST CLUB'S ANNUAL YOUTH APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I always appreciate the opportunity to share positive news about young people from Ohio's Fourth Congressional District. Today, I am pleased to commend to the House 12 high school students who are being honored for their outstanding leadership skills and volunteerism.

On Wednesday, the Noon Optimist Club of Lima will recognize Emma Core, Gabi Croft, Brady Shea, Lauren Cunningham, Elena Oliver, Grant Hardeman, McKenna Bader, Jordane Dues, Jacquelyne Lynch, Alora Patel, Ryan Kaverman, and Sabrina Heffner at its annual youth appreciation luncheon. These students were each nominated by their schools for being good role models for their peers.

I thank the Optimists for their efforts to celebrate the many achievements of these students and am proud to join in the accolades to them. They have my very best wishes for continued success in their lives in the years to come.

CELEBRATING THE MARVIN GROUP'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a significant anniversary for a company that is important to my District and our great country. On February 10, 2023, the Marvin Engineering Company will celebrate 60 years as one of our Nation's leading manufacturers of armament equipment.

What started as a small, modest machine shop in Inglewood, California, has grown into one of the most successful defense contracting companies in the world. The Marvin Group supports all branches of our military and major prime contractors, and it sells products in more than 30 countries worldwide. Thanks to the gifted leadership of founder Marvin Gussman, his wife Madeline, their partner Jerry Friedman, current CEO Howard Gussman, and President David Gussman, Marvin Engineering and its parent company, The Marvin Group, are major employers in California's 43rd Congressional District and Southern California in general.

The Marvin Group's business philosophy, its extensive capabilities, and Jerry Friedman investing a significant amount of time in Washington, DC, allowed The Marvin Group to launch Marvin Land Systems in 1995, Marvin Test Solutions in 1997, and Clean Water Technologies in 2002, all of which have expanded their customer base. In addition to the manufacturing of large aero structures, The Marvin Group produces ejector racks, missile launchers, aircraft pylons and other auxiliary equipment. It has also successfully developed its own proprietary state-of-the-art systems for advanced aircraft. With its expansion into land

and sea-based platforms, including the Flyer tactical strike vehicle, The Marvin Group has won competitions and contracts from the defense departments of many of our Nation's allies around the world. I have a decades-long relationship with the management of The Marvin Group and am proud to note that they are a great corporate citizen with extensive community service involvement in Inglewood and Los Angeles. They are particularly supportive of the Hirschberg Foundation's pancreatic cancer research in honor of Marvin Gussman. The future is most definitely bright for this innovative and responsible company.

As the leadership and more than 1,000 employees of The Marvin Group gather to acknowledge this major milestone, I am proud to bring their accomplishments to the attention of the American people.

HONORING LERLEANE PAYNE CHAVIS'S SERVICE TO MADISON COUNTY

HON. NIKKI BUDZINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Ms. BUDZINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lerleane Payne Chavis, of Madison, Illinois, for 60 years of dedicated service to the Treasurer's office in Madison County.

Lerleane was born on June 17, 1942, in Madison, Illinois. Continuing to be raised in the city, she would graduate from Madison High School in 1960.

Not long after, Lerleane would make history in Madison County. On January 7, 1963, eager to break the color barrier, County Treasurer, George Musso, would hire Lerleane into her office. Lerleane would be the first African American office worker employed in Madison County and the first African American woman to work for Madison County government. At 20 years old, Lerleane proved herself to be a diligent worker and create a welcoming space for her fellow employees.

Her diligence to her craft would lead to numerous promotions, eventually being promoted to Deputy Treasurer for the county. Lerleane would retire from her full-time employment in 1998, but continues to serve on a part-time basis.

January 7, 2023 marked Lerleane's 60th year of service in the Madison County's Treasurer's Office, making her the longest serving employee in Madison County Government history. During her time, she has served under nine county treasurers, making her the unofficial matriarch of the Treasurer's Office.

Throughout her service, Lerleane maintained being a pillar in her community. She would marry LeRoy Chavis in 1968 and spend 49 years together until his passing in 2017. She is the mother of four children, grandmother to nine, and great-grandmother to five. She is a longtime member of Mt. Joy Baptist Church, and volunteers her time taking care of several elderly friends in the area.

Lerleane is a unsung hero who deserves her flowers and appreciation. She is a trailblazer in the fight for equality and it is an honor to recognize her today.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF MRS. CLAIRE BARTLETT

HON. BARRY LOUDERMILK

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Mrs. Claire Bartlett, a stalwart in Georgia's conservative movement, and a valued member of my Congressional staff for over 8 years. Mrs. Bartlett has been a valuable and dedicated member of my office since I was first sworn into Congress on January 6, 2015. Prior to joining my district staff, Claire was a conservative leader in the state of Georgia. Her leadership at the grassroots level demonstrated her commitment to restoring freedom and liberty and made her uniquely qualified to serve as my first District Field Director, and then as our Director of Business and Community Engagement. In these positions, Claire worked to exemplify our mission of representing and serving the people of the 11th Congressional District with integrity, respect, attentiveness, and vigilance. Throughout her tenure, Claire diligently served the people of the district.

Claire's passion for the American ideals and our founding principals has remained her number one priority. Over the course of her time in service, from 2015 through 2023, Claire engaged with and assisted constituents and stakeholders from all walks of life and across the political spectrum. During this time, I received innumerable compliments and accolades regarding the value Claire brought to our mission. Claire will surely be a valuable asset wherever she is in the future; and I congratulate her on her new role, as she continues to work to ensure we have a community, state, and Nation that is free, safe and full of opportunity. She will be missed as a part of our team but will always remain a member of our office family, and I thank Claire for her years of service. God Speed.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF JOSEPH A. HARDY III

HON. GUY RESCENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. RESCENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life and legacy of Mr. Joseph Hardy, a pioneer in the building materials industry from Fayette County, Pennsylvania, who passed away on his 100th birthday on January 7, 2023.

During his final year attending Lehigh University, Mr. Hardy answered the call of duty, enlisting in the United States Army at the outbreak of World War II. After serving his nation as a radioman for the Army Air Corps in the Pacific, he returned home to pursue an industrial engineering degree at the University of Pittsburgh.

After working part-time for his family's farm and jewelry store, Mr. Hardy founded Green Hills Lumber. After several successful years, he purchased land in Eighty-Four, Pennsylvania, and opened a "cash and carry" lumber yard, the 84 Lumber Company, which would

become the nation's largest privately-held building materials supplier.

In 1987, Mr. Hardy began purchasing 400 acres of land in Fayette County. This mountainous landscape became home to what is now the Nemacolin Woodlands Resort. Today, Nemacolin is one of North America's premier resort destinations and a shining example of Mr. Hardy's vision in the Keystone State.

In addition to the job creation in southwestern Pennsylvania, he generously invested in the redevelopment of the resort's surrounding area. Mr. Hardy was famously quoted as saying, "I want to die broke. For the remainder of my life, I want to enjoy and participate in the giving of money to help improve people's lives." This selfless spirit nourished in his roles as Vice Chair of the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County and the Board of Trustees at the University of Pittsburgh and Washington & Jefferson College.

Mr. Speaker, Joseph A. Hardy III's entrepreneurial spirit, commitment, and generosity to southwestern Pennsylvania, in addition to his service to our Nation, exemplify a well-lived life. On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I extend my condolences to Mr. Hardy's family and wish them healing during this difficult time.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF AMELIA LITYNSKI

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Amelia Litynski and her service to Virginia's First District and the Nation.

Amelia earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she triple-majored in Economics, History, and Political Science. She is currently working on her Master's degree in Military Operational Art and Science at the USAF Air Command and Staff College.

During her undergraduate studies, she interned for the Congressional Research Service, the U.S. Department of Defense, debra of America, and the Wisconsin State Legislature. After graduating and prior to joining my office, she scheduled for Congressman BRYAN STEIL of Wisconsin.

Amelia joined my office in October 2021 as my Staff Assistant. She then worked her way up to Legislative Correspondent, and subsequently to Legislative Aide. She contributed tremendously to providing the best constituent service and running one of the best mail programs in the Commonwealth and the Nation. She was also an important member of my defense and legislative team, and a great mentor to both interns and staff.

I would like to thank Amelia for her contributions and dedicated service over the last year and a half. She's been an invaluable member of my team, and I wish her the best as she continues her journey here at the Capitol working for Congressman TOM EMMER in his Republican House Majority Whip office.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Amelia Litynski for her service to Virginia's First District and the Nation. May God bless Amelia as she continues her career in public service.

CELEBRATING THE COMMUNITY HOUSE OF BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN, UPON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate The Community House in Birmingham, Michigan, upon its 100th year serving the region. Over the last century, Birmingham has distinguished itself as a destination for families who are seeking a welcoming, tight-knit community. The Community House has been instrumental in cultivating the City's reputation of excellence, and it is an honor to join with friends and neighbors in celebrating 100 years in Birmingham.

Since 1923, The Community House has evolved to fit the needs of the growing region. This nonprofit organization has brought together tens of thousands of residents, been home to dozens of charities, and hosted hundreds of classes since its formation. The Community House has welcomed folks of all ages, backgrounds, and interests, holding a special place in the hearts of many individuals who have found it to be a second home.

Despite the rapid changes that have shaped our society over the past century, The Community House's role in the community has remained unchanged as "the official center of charitable endeavors . . . to promulgate the social, educational, civic and philanthropic life of the village." Its mission as "home to those seeking continuity between personal, professional, philanthropic, and recreational pursuits" showcases the admirable values that guide the organization and reveals an important vision for its future. Our community is better because of The Community House's work over the past century, and it is an exciting opportunity to extend best wishes as the organization embarks upon its next exciting chapter.

Mr. Speaker, the work done by this local nonprofit has shaped the lives of countless individuals, and its efforts certainly extend beyond the bounds of Southeast Michigan and into the larger region and Nation. It is an honor to recognize The Community House of Birmingham upon its 100 years of contributions to the community, and I ask my colleagues to join me and the people of Michigan's 11th Congressional District in celebrating this remarkable organization.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BETH HOGAN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of an outstanding public servant and community leader from the Town of East Lyme, Connecticut located in Southeastern Connecticut, Beth Hogan. An inspiring trailblazer for women in the legal profession, politics and town government, Beth departed this world too soon on January 28, 2023, after a three-year battle with cancer, with her devoted husband and law partner Conrad

Seifert, and her daughter Emily, at her side. The news of her passing brought forth an outpouring of sadness and praise from the entire region of Southeastern Connecticut and speaks volumes of her impact upon the lives of so many who she helped in countless ways.

Born in Meriden and raised in Stamford, Connecticut to Bill and Rita Hogan, Beth knew from a young age that she was destined to uplift the lives of others. Upon graduating from Boston University and Quinnipiac Law School, Beth met Conrad and they began a journey in a two-person law firm—Seifert and Hogan, representing individuals with both compassion and the highest degree of ethics and professionalism. Throughout her time at the firm, Beth practiced in the areas of criminal defense litigation, civil practice, and juvenile and family law. As I know from my own experience as a small-town general practitioner, this type of law can be stressful. Despite the challenging nature of this work, she handled her clients with calmness and poise. She most recently focused on the cause of fair sentencing for juveniles, which in recent years has been reformed in Connecticut due in part by lawyers who advocated for this change.

Her view of the law was not just about individual cases. As a political candidate, office holder and political organizer she was outspoken believer in progressive policy. This was not just an intellectual exercise for her—she was dedicated to getting real results in her region that were an expression of her beliefs. In 2008, for example, she joined The Connection, Inc., where she focused on expanding affordable housing opportunities. As director of government and community partnerships, Beth fought hard for years to successfully convert a former school into St. Mary Place of New London, Connecticut—a 20-unit affordable housing complex.

Beth also had a knack for recruiting other selfless individuals into local politics. She never missed an opportunity in this regard and was the driving force behind adding members to her town's Democratic party. Her proficiency in finding new advocates, candidates, and volunteers across all ages is exactly why Beth served as the chair of the local party's committee for a total of nearly two decades. Because of Beth, there is an army of visionaries and changemakers who will now march forward in their own relentless pursuit towards a better town and region. In fact, her love of community saw Beth in her final days delegating projects to her trusted friends and colleagues in local politics.

Beth's works are far too numerous to even begin counting. She served on many boards and commissions within East Lyme's municipal government. Beyond the various charities to which she also belonged; Beth notably once served as the first-ever First Selectwoman of East Lyme.

Mr. Speaker, Beth Hogan was the archetypal citizen and public servant. She was a compassionate confidant, a cultivator of community, a public servant, a champion of policy, a connector and mentor of people. Beth Hogan was a force multiplier for good. To say that we mourn the loss of this unwavering positive character could not be more of an understatement. And yet, Beth's dynamic legacy will continue to pay dividends far into the future—it is a garden where the flowers will never die. She is survived by her husband of 31 years, Conrad, her daughter Emily, and the

infinite number of individuals in whom she instilled hope. I can assure my colleagues that she would not wish for these words of praise, which is exactly why we must commit her to our Nation's memory. To that end, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring the giving nature of Beth's story.