

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING UNITED STATES ARMY CAPTAIN DAVID A. CHRISTIAN'S INDUCTION INTO THE OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL HALL OF FAME

**HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2023

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding constituent and National Hero from my district, Captain David A. Christian, whose service and dedication as a Sergeant, Lieutenant, and Captain of the United States Army provides a testimony to selfless service and valor achieved through acts of courage that place the lives of his fellow servicemen before his own, and the security of the United States as his utmost priority.

Raised in Levittown, Pennsylvania, David enlisted in the U.S. Army following graduation from Woodrow Wilson High School. Enlisting at 18, he rapidly attained the rank of Captain in only 2 years at 20 years old.

David's courage demonstrated through combat is ratified by his prolific award record. He has been nominated for every valor award offered by the U.S. Army, including the Medal of Honor and 7 Purple Hearts. During his tours of combat deployments, David discovered more than 52 enemy camps. It was often said of David and his team that "they owned the jungle".

While David is exceedingly proud of his accomplishments in combat during his military service, he is also distinguished by his continued dedication to the armed services by authoring the first legislation pertaining to Agent Orange and PTSD. David, throughout his military and civic career has dedicated himself to service of the Military and Veterans, evidenced by his crucial role in raising \$9 million in donations to construct and maintain the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

On May 1, 2023, at Fort Benning, Georgia, David will be inducted into the Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame. This honor is truly fitting for a man whose life is fully dedicated to selfless service to our great country and his fellow Veterans. Our entire community is immensely proud of this incredible achievement, and we are fortunate to call him a friend, neighbor, and mentor.

OPPOSING THE DEFAULT ON AMERICA ACT

**HON. JILL N. TOKUDA**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2023

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I proudly cast my vote against the Default on

America Act. This reckless debt limit proposal would force Americans to suffer pandemic-level pain once again due to brutal cuts put forth by House Republicans. If we thought the COVID-19 pandemic was bad—impacts on life, learning, health, and economic security—the "virus" being unleashed on our country by this Act has potentially more dire and devastating consequences.

But there is a way forward on this issue. Pass a clean debt limit increase. To blatantly ignore Treasury Secretary Yellen's stark warnings of default back in January and three months later celebrate the passage of a bill that seeks to buy us less than a year's reprieve on the backs of hardworking American families, children, kūpuna, and veterans is offensive and unacceptable.

I gave my inaugural floor speech on January 25th on the debt limit and urged House Republicans to join us in making good on our commitments to millions of Americans who've worked hard, sacrificed, and defended this country by passing a clean debt limit increase. People, families, and entire communities that rely on social security, Medicare, and other critical federal programs—they were looking to us to do the right thing.

Like my constituent from Hilo, who called every day during my first weeks in office, scared that after a lifetime of work, he'd lose the social security check he relied upon each month.

It is now April 27th, and more than 100 days after the warnings from the Treasury, the Republican Majority is only now looking to come to the table on this looming default crisis, which could come as soon as June.

Instead of cleanly raising the debt ceiling as Congressional Republicans did without preconditions on three separate occasions under President Trump, Speaker MCCARTHY is doubling down on holding the full faith and credit of the United States hostage and risking economic chaos and catastrophe to force draconian cuts that will endanger public safety and worsen public health, raise costs for families and students, and harm seniors and veterans.

Instead of seriously coming to negotiate, House Republicans are willing to level pandemic-level pain and suffering on everyday Americans in every community in this country.

The legislation introduced by the Speaker would lead to across-the-board cuts of at least \$142 billion for critical programs. This could lead to the Veterans Health Administration providing 13 million fewer visits and veterans would have to wait longer to receive benefits. 200,000 children could lose access to Head Start slots and 100,000 children could lose access to childcare. Services such as Meals on Wheels could be cut for more than 1 million seniors, while over 1 million participants could drop from the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children.

In Hawaii, these devastating cuts would be felt immediately by some of our most vulnerable residents. 43,000 Hawaii residents would lose food assistance.

In a State where 1 in 10 people are veterans who have served and sacrificed, there would be 38,000 fewer veteran outpatient visits. College would be more expensive and out of reach for 15,000 Hawaii students. Over 3,000 families in Hawaii would lose rental assistance and be at severe risk for or resulting in homelessness. We'd lose 1,000 Preschool and Child Care Slots in Hawaii, where we are already short tens of thousands of seats. At least four air traffic control towers in Hawaii would be shut down, which would prevent my constituents from getting to work or accessing basic services like healthcare, leaving our islands less connected.

And if Republicans don't get their way, they're threatening to default on our Nation's bills, unleashing an economic catastrophe and putting vital government services at risk. Nationwide, a default could kill more than seven million jobs, jeopardize Social Security payments for 94,000 families in my district, and put health benefits at risk for 297,000 veterans, kūpuna, and keiki in Hawaii's Second Congressional District.

It's important to remember that the debt limit reflects the spending and revenue decisions debated and enacted in prior years by prior Congresses. It's about paying our nation's credit card bill, not making additional purchases on it.

The full extent of negative repercussions is unknown because the United States has never defaulted on its obligations. Economists expect the fallout to be widespread and catastrophic for the U.S. and global economy.

Congressional Republicans need to stop playing political games with our debt limit for a partisan political wish list and cleanly raise the debt limit.

Congress should focus on investing in our Nation and its people. We should be focused on decreasing child poverty and hunger, helping our kūpuna on Social Security and Medicare, and increasing veteran access to services. This bill does the opposite.

My Republican colleagues may claim this proposal was the first step towards negotiating with President Biden. But the chips they were willing to gamble in this mockery of a proposal should be a warning to us all about where their priorities lie. It's not with everyday Americans or neighborhoods and communities throughout our country.

With their Default on America Act, House Republicans have shown us the moral bankruptcy of their MAGA ideology and their willingness to abandon the very people they were elected to represent.

Democrat or Republican, Blue, red, purple, and everything in between—we have the opportunity to put people above politics and not gamble with their lives and livelihood. We have less than 60 days until default. America is waiting for us to do the right thing and pass a clean debt limit increase now.

• 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.

HONORING UNITED STATES NAVY  
FLIGHT DEMONSTRATION  
SQUADRON, THE BLUE ANGELS

**HON. MATT GAETZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following proclamation.

Whereas: The Blue Angels were formed by the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Chester Nimitz, on April 24, 1946, to raise the public's interest in naval aviation and boost Navy Morale.

Whereas: The Blue Angels are recognized as the second-oldest formal aerobatic team in the world.

Whereas: The 2023 season marks the 77th anniversary of this impressive outfit.

Whereas: The United States Navy Blue Angels have called Pensacola home since 1955, practicing daring and awe-inspiring maneuvers from the cockpits of F/A-18 Super Hornets in the skies above the city.

Whereas: The mission of the United States Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron is to showcase the pride and professionalism of the United States Navy and Marine Corps by inspiring a culture of excellence and service to the country through flight demonstrations and community outreach.

Whereas: An estimated 11 million spectators view the squadron during air shows each year.

Whereas: The 2023 season marks the first in which the Blue Angels welcome their first female demonstration pilot, Lieutenant Amanda Lee, to the left-wing Number 3 position. Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved:* On this occasion of their 77th, birthday, the United States Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels, are recognized for their contribution to Northwest Florida, as they have distinguished themselves as ambassadors for the Cradle of Naval Aviation by inspiring and entertaining millions of Americans each year. It is an honor to have them call Florida's First District home. Bravo Zulu and Happy Birthday, Blue Angels.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL  
INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK

**HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National Infertility Awareness Week, founded in 1989, to salute the parents, doctors, researchers, and others for the extraordinary progress over the last four decades to destigmatize infertility and bring awareness to the many barriers people face when trying to start and build their families.

Most Americans are not aware that approximately one in five Americans are impacted by the disease of infertility. The disease affects both men and women of all races, religious backgrounds, and economic status; it knows no barriers and impacts millions of individuals.

Through the revolutionary contributions of research scientists and considerable medical advancements, fertility treatments have vastly

improved since the first successful IVF pregnancy and live birth occurred in 1978. Such advancements include early infertility detection through detailed and data-driven testing, advanced egg-freezing technology, and progressive procedures that allow young cancer patients to preserve their fertility prior to undergoing lifesaving chemotherapy treatments. Organizations like RESOLVE: the National Infertility Association, advocate for millions of individuals and couples in this country who need medical assistance to have a family. Other groups, such as the Military Family Building Coalition (MFBC), have focused on raising awareness for active-duty service members and their spouses facing unique challenges with family building. They are actively working to bring awareness to these unique challenges and advance laws and policies that will help our servicemembers sacrificing for our country achieve their dream of building or expanding their own family. There are also organizations such as the Alliance for Fertility Preservation, who stand up to voice on the importance of affordable fertility preservation options for individuals undergoing cancer treatment. In fact, in the absence of comprehensive and reliable fertility preservation and family building healthcare coverage, the option of having children may not otherwise be available for millions of Americans without the financial assistance of organizations like RESOLVE, AFP, and MFBC, and countless other worthwhile organizations.

Since 1978, and because of extraordinary medical advancements and steadfast advocacy organizations, millions of Americans have been able to receive life affirming treatments that have resulted in the delivery of babies. And while advancements have been a substantial step forward for family building, significant medical, financial, and health equity barriers still exist for others who require medical assistance to combat infertility.

During this National Infertility Awareness Week, I am calling on my colleagues in Congress to do more to remove many of the barriers that currently exist for those experiencing infertility challenges in their pursuit of having a child. The ability to have children and the timing of building a family is a basic human right, and thus we must work together to pass legislation to create a path for these American families. I also applaud my colleagues including Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Congresswoman BROWNLEY, Congresswoman DELAURO, Congresswoman STRICKLAND, and Congressman RICK LARSEN for introducing legislation devoted to eliminating obstacles to building families. I salute the millions of infertility warriors throughout the country and the world, who advocate on behalf of that most precious of gifts, that of family.

HONORING VETERANS PARTICIPATING IN THE INAUGURAL  
LONE EAGLE HONOR FLIGHT  
FROM PUERTO RICO

**HON. JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN**

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize 21 veterans from my District who from April 12th to April 14th vis-

ited our Nation's Capital as part of the inaugural Lone Eagle Honor Flight from Puerto Rico.

The Lone Eagle Honor Flight honors American veterans all over the Nation for their courage, and outstanding achievements in defense of the ideals of the United States of America by transporting them to Washington, D.C. to visit the veterans memorials, paying tribute to bold servicemen and women who have served our Nation. This recognition is well-deserved and a testament of our gratitude for their sacrifices.

This inaugural Lone Eagle Honor Flight from Puerto Rico is special, because on April 13th we celebrate National Borinqueneers Day and honor the bravery and valor of the 65th Infantry Regiment, better known as Borinqueneers. This unit composed of Puerto Rican soldiers, led by their motto of Honor and Fidelity, served throughout the liberation of Europe in World War II and the Korean War. The history of Puerto Rico is rich with the example of individuals whose accomplishments inspire us today. They are men and women from all walks of life whose shining example attract the attention of the world to our small island. The Puerto Rican veterans recognized by the Honor Flight Network who served in the U.S. Army in World War II, in the Korean War and the Vietnam War, belong to a long line of American Citizens who did not hesitate to step into cauldron of war when duty called.

Please join me in honoring Ángel Acevedo-Bernard, Juan Acevedo-Carrión, José Adorno-Román, Francisco Berrios-Jovet, Fred Buendía-Izquierdo, Rafael A. Cajigas-Morales, Wilfredo Cardec-Ramos, Andrés Dávila, Jesús Dávila-Colón, Luis G. Padilla-Gautier, Cielo Guerrero, José I. Irizarry, Víctor M. Labarca Lugo, Santos Martínez-Larriuz, Wilfredo Menéndez-Quintana, Rubén Ortiz, Heriberto Ortiz-Ruiz, Salvador Rosado, Walter Santoni-Acevedo, José Torres and Ramón Torres-González for courageously protecting our freedom and democracy.

I am beyond proud of these heroes who have so selflessly served our Nation.

HONORING CSM. (RET.) MARCUS B.  
WHITT, II

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Command Sergeant Major Marcus B. Whitt, II of Morristown, Tennessee who has dedicated his entire life in service to or in support of our Armed Forces.

As a Special Forces Green Beret radio operator, CSM. (Ret.) Whitt and his unit gathered intelligence for highly classified operations during the Vietnam War in Cambodia, Laos and North Vietnam. In 2001, all prior members of MACV SOG were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for extraordinary heroism, great combat achievement regularly conducting guerrilla warfare, and unwavering fidelity while executing missions deep behind enemy lines.

After Vietnam, he furthered his academia earning multiple degrees in Education and Masters in Criminal Justice. He also continued his calling by joining the Reserves in service to many Army Special Forces units. Later, he

was promoted to Command Sergeant Major and stationed at Camp Butmir, Bosnia until a retirement that didn't last long as he continued his career in Iraq supporting our military as a civilian contractor. Presently he is a volunteer for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve in the State of Tennessee and serves as the Ombudsman Director. TN ESGR develops supportive work environments for Service Members in Reserve Components through outreach and education to increase awareness of applicable laws. He also serves with Chapter 18-12 of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association which promotes Vets Helping Vets and the Special Operations Association (former MACVSO members) as a member of its Board of Directors.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT A. "MUZ"  
MURRAY

**HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in memory of a dedicated and exceptional American patriot, Robert A. "Muz" Murray.

Born on September 2, 1935, Robert was a beloved native of South Boston and a resident of Quincy and Hull.

As a middle-school student at St. Brigid School, 12-year-old Robert entered a congressional essay contest entitled, "America, What it means to me,"—sponsored by Speaker John McCormack of Boston. Fittingly, Robert's impassioned and patriotic entry on the ideals and struggles embodied by our Nation earned the honor of first place—along with a special invitation for Robert to join President Harry Truman for lunch at the White House.

In the enduring spirit of his essay, Robert dedicated each day of his 87 years to personifying the principles and values that he held dear as an American. Inspired by our shared commitment to liberty, democracy, and humanity, Robert devoted his life in service to his country, his community, and his family. As a veteran of the United States Army and a devoted husband, father of three, and grandfather of five, Robert also instilled service and dedication in all that knew him.

Robert Murray passed away peacefully on December 23, 2022. It was at his funeral mass that his 1947 essay was read publicly for the first time, as the closing words offered by his youngest daughter, Erin. Include in the RECORD Mr. Murray's essay.

AMERICA, WHAT IT MEANS TO ME

To me, America means homeland. It means my country blessed beyond all countries with the beauty and natural resources, with its inland seas and coursing rivers, teeming with food; its towering mountains, piled high with the riches of the earth; its fertile fields yielding harvest that might feed the world; its cities and towns all throbbing with human life and industry. America means all this but it means much more, much more than the country's materials wealth and power.

To me, America means the land of liberty—a land whose democracy, whose ideals of religion, freedom and equality make it pre-eminent among the nations of the earth. In this land, my homeland, the land of liberty, every man has the ownership of himself. He is free to enjoy the results of his labors,

to declare the convictions of his mind, to share in the making of its laws, and in selecting the rulers of the nation.

America is the land of the free, where every man, no matter how lowly, is a free man in the free country, free to enjoy all its rights and liberties.

To me, America means the struggles, the sufferings, and the sacrifices, which paid the price of these liberties I enjoy.

It is symbolized by the flag I love—the red, white and blue flag; its rich red for American patriots' blood; the white for America's high ideals and purposes; its blue for the boundless hopes America awakes in humanity. That is what American means to me.

Mr. Speaker, may Robert Murray's words serve as a great reminder of who we are as a Nation.

HONORING SUSANNAH SCARONI'S  
WIN AT THE BOSTON MARATHON

**HON. NIKKI BUDZINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Ms. BUDZINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Susannah Scaroni, a graduate from the University of Illinois, for winning the 127th Boston Marathon and a successful World Marathon Majors season.

Susannah was born on May 16, 1991, in Burns, Oregon. Growing up Tekoa, Washington, a car crash would leave her paralyzed at the age of five. Susannah would persevere with the support of her community, eventually graduating from Tekoa High School in 2009 and coming to the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign. Susannah would graduate from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) with a bachelors degree in food science and human Nutrition in 2014 and earn a master's degree in Nutritional Sciences in 2022.

Throughout her education, Susannah would represent the United States in international competition and race in major marathons. Susannah has competed in the last three Paralympic games, earning a gold medal in the 5,000-meter race and a bronze in the 800-meter race in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Susannah would win the Los Angeles Marathon early in her career, however, coming short of winning a world major until recently.

After battling through a career-threatening back injury six months prior, Susannah would win the 2022 Chicago Marathon in October and the New York City Marathon in November. Her streak of wins would only end in Tokyo due to missing the marathon after contracting strep throat, but she would bounce back in April. After competing in the Boston Marathon eight times, with several bronzes being her best accomplishment in years prior, favor would shine her light on Susannah. She would win with a time of 1 hour 45 minutes 45 seconds, holding a lead of five minutes on the previous winner.

With the six recent World Marathon Majors now passed, Susannah has won three out of the six, and medaled in four. I am both proud and honored to recognize my fellow Fighting Illini graduate on today.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE AND RECOGNIZING MR. DANIEL "DANNY" HERNANDEZ, OUTSTANDING CITIZEN

**HON. JUAN VARGAS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Mr. Ray Daniel "Danny" Hernandez, an outstanding Chicano advocate in the 52nd Congressional District.

Mr. Hernandez was a committed and respected community leader who believed in the power of community to invoke equitable and long-term change. He worked tirelessly to uplift, empower, and serve our Latino/Chicano, multicultural and other diverse communities. Mr. Hernandez was one of the founding members of the Chicano Federation's Latino Leadership Institute in 1985, whose mission is to establish the next generation of Latino civic leaders.

Mr. Hernandez made valuable contributions to organizations including San Ysidro Health, the National City Chamber of Commerce, La Maestra Community Health Centers, MANA de San Diego, and Project New Village. He was the Director of Community Relations for San Ysidro Health and, over the years, provided extensive contributions in developing a wide array of outreach, community awareness, and promotional programs to provide access to high quality and affordable healthcare. Mr. Hernandez also supported the advancement of Latinas and assisted MANA de San Diego to increase membership, create awareness of their programs, and connecting the organization with donors.

On behalf of the residents of California's 52nd Congressional District, I would like to express my deepest condolences to the family of Mr. Ray Daniel "Danny" Hernandez. He is survived by his wife, Leticia Ibarra, and his sister, Christine Rosa Maestas. Furthermore, I would like to formally extend my sincere gratitude to Mr. Hernandez for his unwavering commitment to providing equitable and accessible resources to our region throughout his nearly 45-year long career as an advocate and leader. His legacy will continue, as he inspired many.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL  
INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK

**HON. STEVEN HORSFORD**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National Infertility Awareness Week, founded in 1989, to salute the parents, doctors, researchers, and others for the extraordinary progress over the last four decades to destigmatize infertility and bring awareness to the many barriers people face when trying to start and build their families.

Most Americans are not aware that approximately one in five Americans are impacted by the disease of infertility. The disease affects men and women of all races, religious backgrounds, and economic status; it knows no barriers and impacts millions of individuals.

Through the revolutionary contributions of research scientists and considerable medical advancements, fertility treatments have vastly improved since the first successful IVF pregnancy and live birth occurred in 1978. Such advancements include early infertility detection through detailed and data-driven testing, advanced egg-freezing technology, and progressive procedures that allow young cancer patients to preserve their fertility before undergoing lifesaving chemotherapy treatments. Organizations like RESOLVE: the National Infertility Association, advocate for millions of individuals and couples in this country who need medical assistance to have a family. Other groups, such as the Military Family Building Coalition (MFBC), have focused on raising awareness for active-duty service members and their spouses facing unique challenges with family building. They are actively working to bring awareness to these unique challenges and advance laws and policies to help our servicemembers sacrificing for our country achieve their dream of building or expanding their families. There are also organizations, such as the Alliance for Fertility Preservation, that stand up to voice the importance of affordable fertility preservation options for individuals undergoing cancer treatment. In fact, without comprehensive and reliable fertility preservation and family-building healthcare coverage, the option of having children may not otherwise be available for millions of Americans without the financial assistance of organizations like RESOLVE, AFP, MFBC, and countless other worthwhile organizations.

Since 1978, and because of extraordinary medical advancements and steadfast advocacy organizations, millions of Americans have received life-affirming treatments that have resulted in the delivery of babies. And while advancements have been a substantial step forward for family building, significant medical, financial, and health equity barriers still exist for others who require medical assistance to combat in fertility.

During this National Infertility Awareness Week, I am calling on my colleagues in Congress to do more to remove many of the barriers currently existing for those experiencing infertility challenges in their pursuit of having a child. The ability to have children and the timing of building a family is a fundamental human right. Thus, we must work together to pass legislation to create a path for these American families. I also applaud my colleagues, including Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Congresswoman BROWNLEY, Congresswoman DELAURO, Congresswoman STRICKLAND, and Congressman RICK LARSEN, for introducing legislation to eliminate obstacles to building families. I salute the millions of infertility warriors throughout the country and the world who advocate on behalf of that most precious of gifts, that of family.

HONORING JOHN SIMS

**HON. NATHANIEL MORAN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, and renowned East Texas radio personality, John Sims, who tragically passed away the morning of Friday, March 31.

John was a proud Philadelphia native who fully embraced his adopted home of East Texas, where he served our community on air for over forty-three years, most recently with KTBB.

Through his reporting and commentary, John played a direct role in our daily lives, filling an otherwise silent morning commute with community updates, state and national news, guidance, and laughter.

When John wasn't filling the radio waves, he was out in our community. John was active in many civic organizations, working with those in need and those with disabilities.

In particular, John was devoted to his work with the Tyler Together Race Relations Forum, in addition to the League of Women Voters, the March of Dimes, the Tyler Church and Community Network, and East Texas Wheelers and Walkers.

Even further, John was also the former president of Leadership Tyler and the Smith County Community Partnership Council, raising up new leaders in our community advocating for its success.

A devout believer, John always prioritized his time serving with the church and other community groups.

John's un-timely passing will undoubtedly take a toll on East Texas.

I am proud to join his family, his friends, his colleagues, and the entire First District of Texas in remembering John and honoring his lifetime of service. He will be sorely missed.

HONORING THE BASILICA SHRINE  
OF OUR LADY OF THE MIRACU-  
LOUS MEDAL

**HON. DWIGHT EVANS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Miraculous Medal Shrine, a Marian devotional destination and ministry of the Vincentians of the Eastern Province in the Germantown section of Philadelphia, as it has been elevated by the Vatican to Minor Basilica status. This designation is shared by only one other church in the City of Philadelphia, the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, and 91 others across the United States. The Shrine, along with the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception that houses it, are now known as The Basilica Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.

The new designation follows a multiyear application that culminated in a decree issued by Pope Francis. The Shrine is now promoted as an exemplary site of liturgical and pastoral activity within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Minor Basilicas are given prominence among other churches and shrines, receive certain honorifics, and are tasked with special responsibilities.

The Basilica Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, a ministry of the Vincentians of the Eastern Province of the United States, is a sanctuary of prayer and an inspiration of Marian devotion for Roman Catholics throughout the world. Established in 1927 on the grounds of Saint Vincent's Seminary in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the Shrine, and the Romanesque church that houses it were elevated to a Minor Basilica by the Vatican in 2023.

Visitors come to the Basilica Shrine daily for Holy Mass, solemn prayer and meditation, and pilgrimage to God and the Blessed Virgin Mary, while beholding its breathtaking artwork, sculptures, stained glass, altars and architecture. The Basilica Shrine is also home to the Perpetual Novena, a prayer of devotion to Our Lady recited in person.

It is indeed an honor to have such a prestigious decree bestowed upon one of Philadelphia's faith based institutions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DEBORAH K. ROSS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on April 27, 2023 due to a family medical situation.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 201.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call No. 201, I mistakenly voted YEA when I intended to vote NAY.

HONORING E-4 RICHARD DEAN  
WHITE

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent E-4 Richard Dean White of Mountain City, Tennessee.

E-4 Richard White served in the U.S. Air Force from 1971 until 1975 and was one of 70 chosen to serve in the USAF Security Command. He was stationed at many air force bases such as Lackland, TX Goodfellow, Iraklion in Crete, Greece, and Andrews Air Force Base. He was present on August 9, 1974, when President Nixon resigned and departed from Andrews Air Force Base.

Following his discharge, E-4 White attended college and pursued a career in Law Enforcement, continuing his calling to serve.

RECOGNIZING BECKY HATTAN FOR  
HER SERVICE

**HON. MIKE FLOOD**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to thank Becky Hattan of Lincoln for her service to my office.

Becky has worked over the last several months as a constituent services representative.

During her time on the team, Becky brought exceptional organizational skills playing a key role in establishing our District Office in Lincoln.

This work was particularly evidenced by her work on behalf of constituents, which helped recover hundreds of thousands of dollars in constituent resources from federal agencies.

Her coordination of the First District Congressional Art Competition made the program successful.

But most of all, Becky is a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother.

Becky has a passion for serving others and provided quality customer service to people. And that is leading her to return to the healthcare sector.

As she departs, I want her to know that everyone appreciates her work and that we will greatly miss her. On behalf of the First District of Nebraska: Congratulations and best wishes to Becky.

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HONORING THE LATE RICHARD  
STEWART

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**HON. JENNIFER L. McCLELLAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mrs. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Richard Stewart, a beloved and well-known figure from my hometown of Petersburg, in Virginia's Fourth Congressional District. Mr. Stewart was the honorary "Mayor of Pocahontas Island," one of the oldest Black neighborhoods in our nation.

Since 1732, enslaved, escaped, and free African Americans have called Pocahontas Island home, and Mr. Stewart fought relentlessly to preserve artifacts, properties, and the stories of those who lived there. He even created the Pocahontas Island Black History Museum, the first Black history museum in Petersburg, to educate visitors and memorialized the storied history of the neighborhood. He was a veteran, a community leader, and an engaged citizen who devoted his life to preserving our history and preparing the next generation through storytelling and learning.

He leaves behind a lasting legacy and will be sorely missed by the Petersburg community and our Commonwealth.

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HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

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**HON. JENNIFER A. KIGGANS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize and celebrate Israel's 75th anniversary.

Like so many Americans, I am amazed by all that Israel has achieved in the face of immense challenges. Born in the aftermath of the horrors of the Holocaust and the Second World War, Israel's short history is full of success. In a short time span, Israel has become one of the world's leading nations for innovation and technology; its contributions to fields like cybersecurity, healthcare, and agriculture benefit Americans every day.

We also cannot lose sight of the fact that Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East and a beacon of hope for not only Jews, but freedom-loving people of all faiths and backgrounds. Our relationship with Israel is a mutually beneficial partnership that reinforces America's moral values and strategic interests, promoting stability in a highly volatile region. Our two nations face many of the same threats, making it imperative that America does not waiver in our commitment to strengthen Israel's ability to defend itself.

The U.S.-Israel relationship is truly the embodiment of "peace through strength". By standing together, we demonstrate to our adversaries that we will not be intimidated and that we will defend our shared values and interests. As malicious regimes like Iran continue their quest for nuclear capabilities, it is vital that America remains committed to ensuring a strong and secure Israel.

As a Member of Congress, I remain steadfast in my support for Israel and look forward to helping advance U.S.-Israel defense cooperation. I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating Israel's 75th anniversary and reaffirming our commitment to this important partnership.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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**HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, due to committee obligations, I was unable to vote on Roll Call No. 194. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 194 (House Res. 311).

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RECOGNIZING ROOSEVELT HIGH  
SCHOOL'S SERVICE TO THE CHILDREN  
OF WYANDOTTE

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**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Theodore Roosevelt High School in Wyandotte, Michigan on the occasion of their Centennial Celebration. Their steadfast commitment to the education of our area's youth over the last 100 years is worthy of commendation.

The cornerstone of Roosevelt High School was laid in 1921, and over the next two years while the school was being built not a single power tool was used. "The pride of Wyandotte" as it was referred to at the time, is still to this day a beautifully conceived building, with a limestone facade and hand-carved English Oak throughout the building. Though there were only 500 high school students at the time, the new school was built to hold 1,400, allowing it to serve the city of Wyandotte for the next century.

Since the first graduating class crossed the stage in 1923, tens of thousands of students have walked the halls of Roosevelt High School. Many renovations and additions have happened, from the five large WPA murals that were installed in the auditorium in 1942 to

the new gym and workout facilities that were built in 2003, with many in-between. What hasn't changed is the staffs drive to educate and empower the children of Wyandotte, as well as the tradition of parental involvement and partnerships with local businesses. From the many events John and I attended over the years, it has been so heartwarming to see the entire community committed to the mission of helping their students succeed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the staff, students, and community that have made Theodore Roosevelt High School a tremendous educational environment for the last 100 years. From athletics and debate club to the Roosevelt Marching Band participating in President Obama's inauguration, we have always been so proud to see how they represent the state of Michigan. I am excited to see them produce amazing graduates to send off into the world for the next 100 years.

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CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL  
OF DEFIANCE, OHIO

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**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a historic milestone in Defiance, Ohio in our District. Today, citizens are gathering to celebrate the Bicentennial Anniversary of the City of Defiance. Events throughout the day will focus on "Remembering our history, Honoring our present, and Envisioning our future."

On April 28, 2023, after being surveyed by Captain James Riley, the plat for the Village of Defiance was recorded in Wood County, Ohio by Horatio G. Phillips. He purchased thirty acres of land in the Village of Defiance at the confluence of the Auglaize and Maumee Rivers, gateway to the Great Lakes. Thus, Defiance was born and is the County Seat of Defiance County.

The history notes that "Benjamin Leavell would join with Phillips to market the property. It was divided into 150 lots. Their 1823 newspaper ad stated the streets are wide, with alleys for the convenience of the lots, which are of handsome size. It also stated the proprietors have laid off lots for religious societies, schools, and a courthouse. The location of the 1794 Fort Defiance was set aside as a public park."

Residents named the community after Fort Defiance, once a western-most outpost in the Ohio country in early America. Constructed by General Anthony Wayne before 1794's Battle of Fallen Timbers, Fort Defiance was also an important defense in Ohio from invasion by British soldiers during the War of 1812.

Growth continued following "speculation of the construction of the Miami & Erie and Wabash & Erie Canals and their route as they connected to Lake Erie. Ultimately the canals would join together 10½ miles southwest of Defiance at a location named Junction. The canals used the same channel through Defiance. The Wabash & Erie connecting Fort Wayne, Indiana and west to Toledo, Ohio, was completed in 1843 and the Miami & Erie canal, connecting Cincinnati to Toledo, was completed in 1845." The canals' completion fueled much of the growth in western Ohio lands, including Defiance.

It is reported that the legendary Johnny Applesseed owned a nursery on the north bank of the Maumee river with Defiance as his primary headquarters during the early 19th century. Steeped in its history and that of Northwest Ohio, Defiance honors its past through monuments, markers and sculptures of those on whose shoulders the community stands while at the same time emboldened by the spirit of those long-ago ancestors.

Defiance weathered the ups and downs of American life through the centuries and remains a vibrant community today. A focus on education brings with it Defiance College and an excellent public library. Businesses flourish on Main Street and throughout the city. Defiance surely lives up to its motto as "A great place to live" through its intergenerational, enterprising spirit and sacrifices of citizens who have built the patriotic, enduring character of Defiance.

All over Northwest Ohio we join with the residents of this community, remembering 200 years of history while looking forward to a bright future. We pay tribute to the pioneers who founded the city, honor the citizens who built it up in the ensuing years, and pledge our efforts toward a flourishing future.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF  
CINCINNATI CLERMONT WOMEN'S  
BASKETBALL TEAM

**HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Cincinnati Clermont Women's Basketball team on winning the 2023 Small College Division II National Championship.

The UC Clermont Lady Cougars captured the title after a 60–46 win over Johnson & Wales University, Charlotte. Head Coach Ken Lowe's vision was complete after the team made it to the Final Four in the previous season but fell short of a championship.

The Lady Cougars rallied early with a 24–0 run, and 27 points from senior Captain, Ashley Moore. Junior, Tyra Murphy and Grad Student, Kristi Duncan, both recorded double doubles in the Championship game.

There is no doubt that the leadership among the coaching staff and the Lady Cougars in the locker room and on the court helped this team turn their dreams into reality.

Again, congratulations to Coach Lowe, the rest of the coaching staff, and the players for their amazing achievement.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN EDWARD  
L. CALLAHAN

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Captain Edward L. Callahan on his retirement from the United States Navy after 40 years of service. CAPT Callahan's retirement was celebrated during the Naval Weapons Station Earle Change of Command Ceremony on April 21, 2023.

Throughout his decorated career, CAPT Callahan has exhibited the principles of duty and valor. He has served at sea extensively and completed several strategic deterrent patrols. From his service onboard USS *Henry S. Stimson* (SSBN 655) (GOLD) and USS *Mariano G. Vallejo* (SSBN 658) (GOLD) to his sea duty onboard USS *Topeka* (SSN 754) as Weapons Officer, CAPT Callahan has bravely helped maintain the security of our country. Since reporting to active duty in 1983, CAPT Callahan advanced through the ranks and was promoted to CAPT 1 in 2018. From July of 2020 until today, CAPT Callahan has served as Commanding Officer of Naval Weapons Station Earle in New Jersey.

Navigating the COVID–19 pandemic during his leadership at Naval Weapons Station Earle, CAPT Callahan ensured continuous operations of the base while maintaining the health and well-being of officers and personnel. He has been a valuable partner to my office and the community, maintaining open lines of communication and graciously hosting my Service Academy Day information session for students and their families. It has been an honor to work with CAPT Callahan and I thank him for his hospitality, leadership, and service.

CAPT Callahan has exemplified honor, integrity, and professionalism throughout his Navy career. His experience, knowledge, and steadfast initiative have distinguished CAPT Callahan as an outstanding leader who has upheld the core values and mission of the U.S. Navy.

Mr. Speaker, once again, it is my great honor to pay tribute to Captain Edward Callahan for his 40 years of service to the United States Navy. I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in thanking CAPT Callahan for his honorable service to our great Nation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR.  
GEORGE R. "BOB" SMITH, JR.

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. George R. "Bob" Smith, Jr., of Shawsville, Virginia. A proud "country doctor", Dr. Smith founded the Alleghany Clinic in 1955, where he worked tirelessly throughout a more than 40-year career as a family physician.

Shortly after its founding, Dr. Smith convinced his friend Dr. Clarence Taylor to join him in Shawsville to also work at the clinic. Just down the road, they built their own homes next door to one another on a road now appropriately called Pair O'Docs Lane.

In the mid-1960s, Dr. Smith opened the Meadowbrook Nursing Home and in 1982, he founded a nonprofit, the Mountain Valley Charitable Foundation, awarding scholarships to aspiring nurses so they could work at the nursing home.

Once Meadowbrook Nursing Home closed in 2001, Dr. Smith oversaw its transformation into the Meadowbrook Center, which featured a library, wellness center, museum, galley, and community center.

He also helped start the Shawsville Rescue Squad, was a consistent leader in the Shawsville Ruritan Club, served on regional

and statewide medical boards, and dedicated his time to multiple volunteer and charitable causes.

When not serving his patients, Dr. Smith spent time with his family and on the golf course with his golfing buddies.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 73 years Mildred, and his children George R. Smith III (Melinda) and Julia Stewart (Barry) of Shawsville, Mary Beth Bode (John) of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Linda Paulk of Portland, Oregon, together with his nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, all of whom knew him affectionately as G-daddy. I offer them my condolences on their loss.

Dr. Smith leaves behind a lasting legacy in Southwest Virginia, having touched the lives of so many in Shawsville and the surrounding counties. His presence and generosity of spirit will be greatly missed.

RECOGNIZING MR. LAYNE HARPER

**HON. MARILYN STRICKLAND**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Ms. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a standout member of the South Sound community. I would like to recognize Mr. Layne Harper and his commitment to taking care of our veterans in his role as a Veteran Service Officer for the National Association for Black Veterans (NABVETS).

An Army veteran himself, Layne serves with the wisdom and understanding necessary to successfully process claims and provide services to the military community. Over 10,000 veterans and their dependents in Washington state, the country, and abroad have received their service-connected disability benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs—the results of Layne's work.

Prior to his time at NABVETS, Layne founded the Caribbean Veterans Service (CARICOM) and received accreditations from his work with the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. and the African American Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Association (AAPTSDA).

Layne Harper exemplifies the values of integrity and community commitment that run deep in the South Sound. It is my honor to highlight such a service-oriented constituent and his incredible work improving the lives of thousands of others in the military community.

RECOGNIZING SONDR A MYERS'  
LIFELONG CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
THE ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND  
PUBLIC SERVICE

**HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sondra Myers to celebrate her retirement after nearly two decades as the founding director of The University of Scranton's Schemel Forum. Sondra is also the co-founder of Scranton's Interdependence Day, which promotes reaching out to neighbors and the world community to show that working together for security, economic and social justice, and preservation of the earth is essential.

Sondra has been instrumental in bringing the world to Scranton, and her impact on the community cannot be overstated.

Before joining The University of Scranton, Sondra served in various leadership roles, including as a special assistant to the chairman for partnerships at the National Endowment for the Humanities, cultural advisor to Pennsylvania Governor Robert P. Casey, and senior associate at the University of Maryland's Democracy Collaborative. She has also held numerous positions in academia, including director of the President's Millennium Seminars at The George Washington University and senior advisor on civic affairs to the president of Connecticut College.

Sondra has written, edited, and co-edited several books on democracy and civic engagement, presented programs in several countries, and organized and moderated symposia on culture and public policy for academic institutions and cultural organizations throughout the United States. Her impact on the national stage is evident through her appointments by Presidents Obama and Carter to the Commission on Presidential Scholars and the U.S. Commission on Fine Arts, respectively.

Sondra's leadership and expertise have been invaluable to the University of Scranton. Under her guidance, the Schemel Forum has become a highly popular program that brings renowned speakers to Scranton to engage in dialogue on a wide range of topics. Sondra's commitment to promoting cultural understanding and learning has enriched the community, and her legacy will continue to inspire scholars for generations.

Sondra's contributions to the arts and humanities are immeasurable, and her dedication to public service, is truly admirable. I extend my heartfelt congratulations on her retirement and wish her many fulfilling and enjoyable years ahead with her husband, Morey, and family.

#### RECOGNIZING CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT JAMES J. WELLER

#### HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding constituent from my district, Chief Master Sergeant James J. Weller. CMSgt Weller is retiring from the United States Air Force after 42 years of faithful service to our country.

Born in Norristown, Pennsylvania, Jim went on to graduate from Upper Dublin High School in Fort Washington, Pennsylvania. He began his career of service early as a Civil Air Patrol Cadet and would go on to enlist as an Infantryman in the U.S. Air Reserves. In 1983 he transferred to the Air Force and began an illustrious career that saw him serve in locales throughout the world in support of the Cold War and the Global War on Terror.

Jim has served in many positions in defense of our great nation to include Military Law Enforcement, Aircraft Armament Technician, Emergency Manager, and various other additional duties. In March of 2003, Jim was part of the Red Tail Express, the first successful Air Force ground convoy into Iraq. On a sub-

sequent deployment to Iraq, he served as the Security Escort Manager to Baghdad Air Base. Jim's professional excellence and dedication to service is exemplified in his support of Operations Desert Storm, Deny Flight, Southern Watch, Southern Focus, Inherent Resolve, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

On the domestic front, Jim leveraged his extensive military experience in disaster management across 20 domestic operations. Notably he supported efforts during Covid-19, Hurricanes Floyd and Irene, Tropical Storm Lee, and Super Storm Sandy. His security expertise has been used in support of G-20 summits, a Papal visit, the 2016 Democratic National Convention and Presidential Inaugurations. Jim has also been instrumental in service to our local community where he serves as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Civil Air Patrol as well as volunteer Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Services.

In his private life, Jim and his wife Michelle reside in Warrington, Pennsylvania where they have raised 4 wonderful children.

We are all incredibly grateful for the positive impact Jim has had through his long career, and we wish him countless blessings during his retirement.

#### APPRECIATING SOUTH KOREA

#### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 70th anniversary of the South Korea and United States alliance, formed in October 1953, with the signing of a mutual defense agreement at the end of the Korean War. Over the past seven decades, the alliance has proved to be successful, as the goal of protecting South Korea, specifically from another North Korea invasion has been achieved.

South Korea, officially the Republic of Korea, is one of the United States most valuable economic and strategic partners in Asia. South Korea is now our sixth largest trading partner, and we are their second largest, behind China.

Thursday, I was grateful to greet His Excellency Yoon Suk Yeol, President of Korea, to the Capitol and attend his address to the joint meeting of Congress along with my good Korean-American friend, Mr. Jaehoon Choe, who is also a fellow South Carolinian.

Amazingly the President cited "Known as the 'Miracle on the Han River,' Korea's economic growth rate was unrivaled. Korea was one of the Least Developed Countries after the war. Its annual income was just U.S. \$67 per capita. Now its economy ranks tenth in the world." Today, South Korea per capita is \$33,340 as North Korea is estimated a gruesome \$1,298.

In His Excellency's address he stated, "My friends, freedom and democracy are once again under threat. The war against Ukraine is a violation of international law. It is an attempt to unilaterally change the status quo with force. Korea strongly condemns the unprovoked armed attack against Ukraine."

"When North Korea invaded us in 1950, democracies came running to help us. We fought together and kept our freedom. The rest is history."

"Korea's experience shows us just how important it is for democracies to uphold solidarity. Korea will stand in solidarity with the free world. We will actively work to safeguard the freedom of the people of Ukraine and support their efforts in reconstruction."

South Korea is well represented in Washington with Ambassador Cho Hyun-dong who effectively promotes Seoul for defense and job creation for Korea and America.

As our military continues the fight in the War on Terrorism, we can find inspiration in remembering the Korean War victory over communism, which reminds us that Americans have a long history of defeating enemies of freedom all over the world achieving peace through strength.

#### CONGRATULATING INOCENCIA JUSINO ON HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

#### HON. JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate one of my constituents Inocencia Jusino from Lajas on her 90th birthday.

Mrs. Jusino was born in Lajas on April 15, 1933, to Juan Jusino and Laura Torres, the second daughter of six children. Her father took her out of school in the fifth grade to work in the fields, to help support the family. This gave her valuable life lessons, work ethic and the drive that she still has today.

She moved to Brooklyn at the age of 19, speaking only Spanish and started working with the Ladies Garment Workers Union where she worked for the following 47 years.

Mrs. Jusino married Miguel Angel Corales on May 14, 1955, and they had two children Edwin and Marilyn. Her family grew when her daughter married Philip and her son Annabell.

She is the proud Abuela (grandmother) or as her grandchildren call her Vendo Vendo to Ina Marie, Mel, John-Michael, Jose, Genevieve, Bryant, Philip II, Kelly, and Sam. She is also a great-grandmother to Naylani, Leeland and Ava.

Mrs. Jusino returned to Puerto Rico full time in 1995 and was widowed in 2003. Despite losing her husband, she has continued to be active in her church and community. She frequently travels and has never missed a milestone in her children or grandchildren's lives.

I call on my colleagues to join me in congratulating Inocencia Jusino on her 90th birthday and wishes for continued health and happiness with her family.

#### HONORING SGT. KENNETH SUTER

#### HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent SGT. Kenneth Suter for his distinguished service to the U.S. Air Force.

Hailing from Kodak, Tennessee, SGT. Kenneth Suter served on the 37th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squad as an engine mechanic, primarily working on helicopter aircraft.



Stationed in Da Nang, Vietnam, SGT. Kenneth Suter proudly served from 1971 to 1972. May his sacrifice and service and that of his comrades never be forgotten.

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COMMEMORATING CHARLES  
STEELE'S SERVICE TO THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
AND THE CITY OF MANCHESTER

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**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 28, 2023*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Charles Steele, a resident of Manchester, Michigan on the occasion of his 93rd birthday. His dedication and patriotism to his country and to his city is worthy of commendation.

Born in 1930, Charles moved to Manchester shortly after his birth. During high school and

after graduation, he was a member of the Navy Reserve. Shortly after an honorable discharge from the Navy Reserve, Charles was drafted into the Army in 1951, where he stayed until being honorably discharged in 1953. In April of 1953 he joined the Manchester American Legion, Post 117.

Charles' dedication to Post 117 and the veteran's community over the last 70 years cannot be understated. He was heavily involved in the construction of their new hall in the 1970s, which for decades served as a popular location for community events, parties, weddings, and bingo games. The last seven decades has seen him serve as the Commander of Post 117 on five separate occasions, as well as being the Post Chaplain for the last 15 years. As Chaplain, he has spoken at many of the Memorial Day Services in the area, as well as attending military funerals where he presents the flag to the families of fallen veterans.

Over the last 70 years, Charles' involvement in his community has been visible to everyone outside of the veteran community as well. He

started the Color Guard Team that has been present at every Manchester High School football game since 1953. He missed his first game in 70 years last season but is hopeful to be back this fall. Starting with the Centennial Celebration of the City of Manchester in 1967, there are around 70 flags that are put up and taken down daily on holidays and special occasions on Main St. For 55 years, he has helped with the flags. Most recently and when he is available, he drives the truck with the flags.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Charles Steele's lifetime of service to this Nation and his community. His commitment and dedication go beyond Legion Post 117. He has demonstrated the same qualities to his community, Emanuel United Church of Christ, the Manchester Athletic Boosters, and his family. We thank him for his service and wish him the happiest of birthdays.