

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CODE RETURNING CITIZENS COORDINATION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to introduce the District of Columbia Code Returning Citizens Coordination Act. I introduced a similar version of this bill earlier this year. This bill would require the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to provide information to the District of Columbia government on individuals convicted of felonies under D.C. law in BOP custody. Currently, BOP provides no information to D.C. on these individuals, even immediately before release, which inhibits reentry, increases recidivism and harms public safety.

Federal law requires BOP to incarcerate individuals convicted of felonies under D.C. law. There are currently 3,200 such individuals in BOP custody, and they are located in prisons throughout the United States. This unique custody arrangement creates several obstacles to successful reentry, including information sharing among agencies.

BOP asserts that federal privacy laws prohibit it from providing any information to D.C. on these individuals, which prevents D.C. from having services ready for them when they return from prison. Yet, studies consistently show the importance of health care, housing, education, job training and substance use disorder treatment for successful reentry.

This bill would require BOP to provide D.C. two types of information on each individual convicted of a D.C. Code felony in BOP custody. Every 90 days, BOP would provide the name, age, Federal Register Number, facility where housed and the scheduled release date. Upon D.C.'s request, BOP would provide D.C. the same information that BOP provides to the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA) on these individuals, such as their release plan. CSOSA is a federal agency that supervises individuals convicted of D.C. Code felonies on supervised release and parole.

D.C. would be allowed to provide the biographical information only to counsel for the individuals, and to organizations that provide legal representation to individuals in criminal or post-conviction matters, or in matters related to reentry. D.C. would not be allowed to provide any of the other information, and D.C. law enforcement agencies would not have access to any of the information.

The overwhelming majority of people in prison return home. I hope everyone agrees on the importance of successful reentry.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

HONORING ERIC CHILDS OF MIND'S EYE COMICS

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Small Business Week, May 2–5, 2022, and to thank Eric Childs of Mind's Eye Comics. Eric's dedication to his community in Burnsville is what fuels Minnesota's Second Congressional District.

Mind's Eye Comics was established in 1998 in Eagan, Minnesota. A dedicated and long-time customer, Eric stepped in to continue the business after the original owner retired from the comic book business. He has continued to ensure that Mind's Eye welcomes all levels of comic enthusiasts in the Second Congressional District, Minnesota, and beyond.

Small businesses like Mind's Eye Comics are the backbone of our economy. I'm proud that Eric is a member of my Small Business Taskforce. I'm thankful for his expertise and guidance as we work to shape policies to benefit and strengthen our small business economy.

GETTING RID OF ATF'S ILLEGAL LISTS OF LAW-ABIDING AMERICANS

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise to demand that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) destroy their illegal lists of law-abiding gun-owning American citizens.

The Firearms Owners' Protections Act of 1986, 18 U.S.C. 926(A)(3), says that "No such rule or regulation prescribed after the date of the enactment of the Firearms Owners' Protection Act may require that records required to be maintained under this chapter or any portion of the contents of such records, be recorded at or transferred to a facility owned, managed, or controlled by the United States or any State or any political subdivision thereof, nor that any system of registration of firearms, firearms owners, or firearms transactions or dispositions be established." There could not be a clearer prohibition on lists of gun owners.

However, incredibly ATF has 920,664,765 records. And 94 percent of those records are digitized. But never fear, we must trust ATF's word that these records are "nonsearchable." But it begs the question; why have a database if it is unsearchable? Their excuse is ludicrous. This is a gun registry of lawful gun-owning citizens clearly prohibited by federal law.

And they want more people on the list. The current process is already illegal and unconsti-

tutional, as all firearms dealers are required to turn over EVERY record to the ATF when they lose their federal license. But now, the Biden administration's new regulations require that ALL records be kept.

ATF has engaged in another troubling unconstitutional action—this time a violation of due process. Congressional candidate Laura Loomer was never notified that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) found her possession of a firearm a violation of federal law. The only reason she became aware of the FBI's decision was due to the fact that she made several inquiries after being denied a concealed carry permit.

In other words, the federal government did not tell Ms. Loomer that she was illegally owning firearms—a clear violation of due process. DOJ has still not yet responded to a letter I sent them over six months ago asking for clarification on this issue.

The ATF is a rogue control agency violating American rights at every opportunity. They do not just want every gun serialized—they even want gun parts serialized. And they cleverly changed the definition of machine gun so that more guns would be considered illegal.

I have introduced a bill, the No Gun Lists Act, that would force ATF to destroy all the ATF's illegal lists of gun-owning Americans. And the creation of any new lists is expressly prohibited. Furthermore, the bill would allow negatively affected individuals to sue the ATF for damages done by the agency in violation of the bill.

These abuses of the Constitution—whether the Second Amendment or due process—must be opposed at all costs.

RECOGNIZING THE CODY ROUGE COMMUNITY ACTION ALLIANCE

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the Cody Rouge Community Action Alliance for their outstanding service on behalf of the communities of Michigan's 13th District as they celebrate their fifteenth anniversary.

The Cody Rouge Community Action Alliance was founded with the purpose of serving the needs and goals of the neighborhood residents, businesses, and organizations. They have worked to create pathways to greater community engagement and to build future leaders through its youth programming. At heart, they are committed to strengthening families and neighborhoods to create a better quality of life for all.

Cody Rouge Action Alliance has been able to successfully connect thousands of residents to critical resources with the support of the Cody Rouge Faith Alliance. This alliance includes instrumental churches and neighborhood associations such as: Far West Detroit

• 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.

Civic Association, West Outer Drive Civic Association, Weatherby Neighborhood Association, Southfield Plymouth Community Association, Joy Southfield Community Association, Warrendale Community Association, Franklin Park Community Association, and more.

Please join me in recognizing the numerous contributions of the Cody Rouge Community Alliance on behalf of Michigan's 13th District Strong.

HONORING THE 18TH INTERNATIONAL VEENA FESTIVAL

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, today I wish to recognize the Sri Annamacharya Project of North America (SAPNA), along with Veena Council Global, in commemoration of the 18th International Veena Festival. SAPNA was conceived as the Saint Annamacharya Project USA by Dr. Sriram and Mrs. Saradapurna Sonty in 1989.

The International Veena Festival presents over 50 Saraswathi Veenas—an ancient Indian string instrument originating in Vedic times and referenced in Vedic Scripture from thousands of years ago. Veena music is known to bring about spiritual healing, a feeling of communion, and a connection with a higher power.

Through the International Veena Festival, SAPNA seeks to sustain classical music; to promote innovative music traditions on a global stage; and to foster friendship, peace, harmony, and universal understanding through music in today's turbulent times.

Madam Speaker, I celebrate the work of SAPNA to honor the cultural heritage of more than 4 million Indian-Americans, uplift traditional Indian artists, and bridge cultural divides through music.

RECOGNIZING THE NORTHWEST INDIANA BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2022

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I take this time to commend several exceptional leaders from Indiana who will be honored as the Northwest Indiana Business and Industry Hall of Fame Class of 2022. This year's inductees include Brian Boomsma, Napoleon Branford III, Debbie and David Cook, and Fritz Olthof. In addition, Tri-State Industries will be presented the Enterprise of the Year Award. For their outstanding contributions to the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond, these honorees will be commended at the 15th Annual Induction Ceremony on Monday, May 9, 2022, at Avalon Manor in Merrillville, Indiana. The Honorable Eric Holcomb, Governor of the State of Indiana, will serve as the keynote speaker for this special event.

Brian Boomsma is the president of Dutch Farms, Inc., which was founded in 1987 by

Brian and his brother, Bruce. In the beginning, Dutch Farms sold farm fresh eggs to local grocery stores and markets throughout the Chicagoland area. Over time, the company expanded its product line to include dairy, meat, juice, baked goods, and more. Today, the family-owned business operates out of a 400,000 square foot campus in the Pullman District of Chicago. Under the remarkable leadership of Brian, Dutch Farms currently distributes its products in 40 States and 15 countries. Dutch Farms is committed to giving back to the community through its support of various organizations, including food banks, youth groups, veterans' groups, and soup kitchens.

Napoleon Branford III is a Northwest Indiana native hailing from East Chicago. Napoleon is a graduate of East Chicago Roosevelt High School and played on the celebrated Rough Riders basketball team that won the State title in 1970. For this accomplishment, Napoleon was inducted into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame. Later in life, Napoleon established and led the successful investment and banking firm, Siebert Branford Shank & Co., LLC, and served as its chairman from 1998 to 2016. Currently, he is chairman and CEO of his own company, NBIII Entertainment. He is also one of the chief financial strategists for Team Harris, LLC. Napoleon has given of his time and efforts to numerous charitable organizations and foundations throughout his lifetime including, but not limited to, the California Healthcare Foundation, the Boy Scouts of America, and the American Heart Association.

Dave and Debbie Cook are the founders of Hoosier Bat Company, located in Valparaiso, Indiana. Dave Cook worked as a scout for the New York Yankees, and during that time, he observed players struggling to transition from using aluminum bats to wooden bats. Seeing the need and the opportunity, Dave painstakingly created a patented design, a durable wood bat that helped to ease this transition. In 1991, Dave and Debbie founded Hoosier Bat Company, which they continue to operate and grow today. The company sells its bats throughout the United States and worldwide. Hoosier Bat Company caters to all levels of the game, from Little League to the major leagues, and they have made bats for many successful Major League Baseball players. The Cooks are involved in numerous charitable endeavors, and they continue to donate bats to events and organizations that give back to the community.

Fritz Olthof is the founder of Olthof Homes, which he established in 1961. Fritz learned the basics of building a strong work ethic at a young age, which he credits to his upbringing and his father, in particular. Fritz's first project was a seven-flat building in Lansing, Illinois, and he moved full steam ahead from that moment on. Currently, Olthof Homes is based in Saint John, Indiana, and has an office in Indianapolis as well. Olthof Homes continues to grow and expand building new home communities throughout Northwest Indiana, Northeast Indiana, and Central Indiana. Fritz is proud to have all four of his sons and his grandson working for the business. The company has been proud of their dedication to support local charitable organizations, including the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana and Habitat for Humanity, to name a few.

The recipient of the Enterprise of the Year Award is Tri-State Industries, a steel manufacturing and fabrication company based in Ham-

mond, Indiana. The company was founded in 1980 by Don Keller and initially made industrial pipe glides and slides. Today, the company is a contract manufacturer for large entities in the railcar, construction, and mobile trailer industries across Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin. Additionally, the Keller family founded Tri-State Automation, a business that advances the use of robotics in manufacturing. This truly innovative technology produces robots that weld, haul materials, and serve other customized industrial functions.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending these dedicated leaders and organizations upon their induction into the Northwest Indiana Business and Industry Hall of Fame. For their influence, innovation, and dedication to the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond, the inductees are worthy of the highest praise.

2022 CONGRESSIONAL ART COMPETITION

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the artistic ability of a young student from my Congressional District, Lillian Spencer from the Pittsburgh Creative and Performing Arts School.

Ms. Spencer is the winner of the 2022 18th Congressional District of Pennsylvania's High School Art Competition, "An Artistic Discovery."

Ms. Spencer's artwork, an acrylic painting entitled "Surmount," was selected from a number of outstanding entries in this year's competition.

In fact, 27 works from 8 different schools in Pennsylvania's 18th Congressional District were submitted to our panel of respected local artists.

It is a real tribute to Ms. Spencer's skill and vision that their work was chosen as the winner of this year's competition.

I should add that Ms. Spencer took second place in this competition last year with a color pencil composition entitled "Seeing Eye to Eye."

Ms. Spencer's artwork will represent the 18th Congressional District of Pennsylvania in the national exhibit of high school students' artwork that will be displayed in the United States Capitol over the coming year.

I encourage my colleagues as well as any visitor to Capitol Hill to view Ms. Spencer's artwork, along with the winning entries from the high school art contests held in other Congressional Districts, which will be on display in the Capitol tunnel.

It is amazing to walk through this corridor and see the interpretation of life through the eyes of these young artists from all across our country.

Hanna Paras from the Pittsburgh Creative and Performing Arts School was awarded second place for their acrylic painting entitled "Self-Healing."

Rebecca Carter from the Pittsburgh Creative and Performing Arts School received third place for their photograph entitled "Refracted."

Naomi Davis from the Pittsburgh Creative and Performing Arts School was awarded fourth place for their artwork entitled "Monster Pen Drawing."

Brynn Campbell from the Pittsburgh Creative and Performing Arts School was awarded fifth place for their acrylic on reused canvas composition entitled "Reflecting on Winterburn."

This year, I displayed all of the entries in the art competition at the Braddock Carnegie Library and encouraged the public to choose their favorite work of art.

"Self Portrait," a pen and marker composition by Benjamin Kefalos from Woodland Hills High School, received the most votes and was given the "People's Choice" award.

In addition, Honorable Mention Awards were presented to works by Cameron Petrosky, from East Allegheny Jr./Sr. High School; Mia Mace, from South Allegheny High School; and Eva August, from the Pittsburgh Creative and Performing Arts.

I would like to recognize all of the participants in this year's 18th Congressional District High School Art Competition:

from East Allegheny Jr./Sr. High School, Marley Green, Samantha Hallick, Jax Jurisic, Casey Kapa, Gabrielle Miller, Cameron Petrosky, and Kalea Slaby;

from Pittsburgh CAPA, Farhaanah Ahmad Ali, Eva August, Brynn Campbell, Rebecca Carter, Valentina Chiriatti, Naomi Davis, Lillian Spencer, Hannah Paras, Raisa Suhrbier, and Alexia Tsoukalas;

from Propel Braddock Hills High School, Raevin Fletcher, Thai George, and Ranya Watkins;

from South Allegheny High School, Mia Mace;

from South Fayette High School, Kira Perna;

from Thomas Jefferson High School, Gina Cocuzzi;

from West Mifflin Area High School, Emily Seech and Gianna Guerra;

and from Woodland Hills High School, Makhiya Easley and Benjamin Kefalos.

I would like to thank these impressive young artists for allowing us to share and celebrate their talent, imagination, and creativity.

The efforts these talented students have put into expressing themselves in a powerful and positive manner are deeply inspiring.

I hope that all of them will continue to utilize their artistic talents, and I wish them all great success in their future endeavors.

HONORING JACK KOLB-WILLIAMS OF THE GARAGE

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Small Business Week, May 2–5, 2022, and to thank Jack Kolb-Williams of The Garage. Jack's dedication to his community in Burnsville is what fuels Minnesota's Second Congressional District.

The Garage has supported small, local artists of all ages throughout the Second Congressional District and Minnesota for more than two decades. They provide an important creative and cultural space for the community for all ages to enjoy local music.

Small businesses like The Garage are the backbone of our economy. I'm proud that Jack is a member of my Small Business Taskforce. I'm thankful for his expertise and guidance as we work to shape policies to benefit and strengthen our small business economy.

HONORING SAMUEL BRUCE, JR.

HON. SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation honoring the life of Samuel Bruce, Jr.

Whereas, on behalf of the Congress of the United States and the United States of America, want the family of Samuel Bruce, Jr. to know that we all mourn the passing of a talented young man. We recognize him as a beloved member of our South Florida community and extend our deepest condolences.

Whereas, Bruce, helped the Raiders win back-to-back state titles in high school, amassing more than 1,300 receiving yards and 21 touchdowns. He later signed with the Hurricanes of the University of Miami to further his education in the state he loved.

Whereas, Sam Bruce became a giant in our community, we now honor his memory and the hard work and determination he stood for. As he demonstrated throughout his life, we all need to be more like him and wear our hearts on our shelves.

SUPPORTING H.R. 3525, THE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL CREATION OF A NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE ACT

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3525, the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Act.

I am proud to represent a district that is home to hundreds of thousands of Asian Pacific Americans with the largest concentration of Vietnamese-Americans in the country. For years, I've seen firsthand how our Asian Pacific American community embodies the American experience. That is why, as chairperson of the Committee on House Administration, I convened hearing in 2020 to examine a previous version of this bill. It is also why, during this Congress, I have worked to ensure this bill made it to the House Floor for a vote.

During our 2020 hearing, witnesses testified to the troubling lack of knowledge of Asian Pacific American history and culture among American students and associated that lack of knowledge with a shortage of exposure, rather than with a shortage of Asian Pacific American contributions to the Nation. For example, witnesses noted—among many other startling datapoints—only 3 percent of sites in the Na-

tional Register of Historic Places are associated with Asian Pacific American history, and studies of U.S. history textbooks show a shocking lack of content on Asian Pacific Americans. This is disconcerting, as Asian Pacific Americans have been in the United States since the early 19th century and, today, are the fastest growing demographic in the country. Asian-Americans built the Transcontinental Railroad and much of our Nation's agricultural infrastructure, fought in the Civil War, helped lead the fight for farmworkers' rights and made key breakthroughs in atomic science and more.

Unfortunately, notwithstanding all the ways in which Asian Pacific Americans have strengthened the United States, the community has repeatedly been subject to cruelty. From the Chinese Exclusion Act and Japanese internment to the spike of racism and violence we have all witnessed over the past several years, America must do better by the Asian Pacific American community. We must do everything we can to honor the history and culture of Asian-Americans. I can think of few better ways to do that than a museum dedicated to their story. By establishing a commission to study the potential creation of an Asian Pacific American museum, we will be taking a meaningful step toward achieving that goal.

I strongly support H.R. 3525 and encourage my colleagues to do so as well.

HONORING SENATOR AND DIPLOMAT ROBERT C. KRUEGER

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of former U.S. Ambassador and Senator Robert C. Krueger, who passed away on April 30, 2022, at the age of 86.

Born September 19, 1935, in New Braunfels, Texas, Krueger earned degrees from Southern Methodist University, Duke, and Oxford. His passion for education would play an integral role in his professional life, and he spent most of his career in academia—first as a professor of English literature and later teaching government and ethics—at Duke University, the University of Texas at Austin, Rice University, Oxford University, Texas State University, and Texas Tech University.

In 1974, the people of Texas's 21st Congressional District elected Krueger to be their U.S. Representative, and he was voted after his first term as the most effective freshman Member. Furthermore, in 1976, he was the only other Texan to stand and speak in support of Congresswoman Barbara Jordan's amendment to the 1965 Voting Rights Act. As the late Congresswoman said, "He believed that democracy includes everybody." After two terms in the House, Krueger was appointed by President Jimmy Carter to serve as U.S. Ambassador-at-Large and Coordinator for Mexican Affairs. He remained in that role through the end of the Carter Presidency.

In 1990, Texas voters elected Krueger to the Texas Railroad Commission, a powerful entity that regulates oil and gas. Two years later, Texas Governor Ann Richards appointed him to fill the vacant Senate seat left by Senator Lloyd Bentsen. In the Senate, Krueger introduced anti-stalking legislation, and would

fight to strengthen healthcare for veterans, combat pollution in the Gulf of Mexico, and end Federal subsidies for tobacco, among other priorities.

After Krueger's Senate term ended, President Bill Clinton appointed him Ambassador to Burundi. At the time, Burundi was suffering from intense violence and political conflict, and the assignment represented deep faith in Krueger's diplomatic abilities. Krueger served in Burundi until 1995, when his convoy was ambushed by gunmen in an assassination attempt due to his vocal opposition to the genocide. On his courage, President Bill Clinton remarked, "... if we didn't have brave people there, like Ambassador Bob Krueger, it would be even harder to avoid human tragedy." From 1996 to 1999, Krueger served as U.S. Ambassador to Botswana and later as a Special U.S. Representative to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) from 1998 to 2000. After an accomplished career in public service, Krueger returned to academia and retired in 2017, living out his days in New Braunfels at the same house in which he grew up.

Madam Speaker, I join my fellow Texans in mourning the loss of a stalwart patriot and public servant. Senator Bob Krueger's career took him around the world, but he never lost sight of his deep roots in Texas. My thoughts are with his wife of 39 years, Kathleen, his children, Mariana, Sarah and Christian, and all those who knew and loved him.

**HONORING JOHN SWANEY OF
PRECISION SIGNS AND IMAGING**

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Small Business Week, May 2–5, 2022, and to thank John Swaney of Precision Signs and Imaging. Jack's dedication to his community in Burnsville is what fuels Minnesota's Second Congressional District.

Precision Signs and Imaging has provided important services to business, large and small, throughout Minnesota. John has led Precision Signs and Imaging to not only business success, but also in serving their local community. John and Precision Signs and Imaging showcase the impact that small businesses can have on their local community.

Small businesses like Precision Signs and Imaging are the backbone of our economy. I'm proud that John is a member of my Small Business Taskforce. I'm thankful for his expertise and guidance as we work to shape policies to benefit and strengthen our small business economy.

**HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF NICK TULLIER, EAST BATON
ROUGE SHERIFF'S DEPUTY**

HON. CLAY HIGGINS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of my Thin Blue Line brother Nick Tullier.

Nick served his state and community honorably as a patrol deputy with the East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Department.

A member of the Thin Blue Line for nearly two decades, Nick Tullier was critically injured in the line of duty on July 17, 2016. While responding to a call in Baton Rouge, Nick and his fellow deputies were ambushed in a targeted attack against law enforcement.

Nick was shot three times. By all accounts, he was not supposed to live. He did.

Though paralyzed due to the injuries, Nick defied every expectation over the last 6 years.

He was a fighter. His spirit was strong, and he never gave up. Nick fought until the very end.

On May 5, 2022, Nick Tullier's watch ended. We all mourn his passing. However, we also celebrate Nick's life.

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."—John 15:13 KJV

Nick was selfless and acted with love for his fellow man. He put his own life on the line to protect the community he had sworn to serve.

I am blessed to have known Nick and to have shared a few brief hours in the course of his journey. He is survived by his parents, his two sons, two brothers, and five nephews. They are all in our prayers.

Many times, I have prayed for Nick, for his family, and for healing. Our prayers are with them now in this time of mourning.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the State of Louisiana, I pay tribute to the life, commitment, and sacrifice of Nick Tullier. May his legacy and his service to the Thin Blue Line never be forgotten.

**HONORING THE SERVICE OF
SAVANNAH A. VAN DYKE BELLO**

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize long-time community member Savannah Van Dyke Bello, as she celebrates her 100th birthday.

Savannah was born in Idabel, Oklahoma to Richard and Rebecca Van Dyke. Savannah later moved to California where she met her husband, Albert Bello, and the couple became parents to three children.

Throughout her life, Savannah has demonstrated her dedication to public service and civic education. After overcoming tuberculosis herself and noting the stigma behind the disease, Savannah enrolled in nursing school. She worked as a nurse at the Contra Costa County Medical Center from 1961 until her retirement in 1984. Additionally, throughout the 1960s and 1970s, Savannah was involved in the civil rights movement. She was and continues to be passionate about helping the Black community to connect with their history. Savannah has shown her passion for bettering her community in many ways, including as a member of the Richmond Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) in the 1960s, working with the American Red Cross for over 20 years, and engaging in local, statewide, and national elections. Savannah is also a writer and her book, "Savannah . . . Unexpected Turns" describes 20th century American history through her own lens.

In her personal life, Savannah is a proud Catholic and attends Saint David of Wales Catholic Church in Richmond, California. She loves attending Bible study to connect more with her faith. Savannah also enjoys quilting, writing poetry, and spending time with her three children, three granddaughters, and nine great-grandchildren.

Savannah is a leader in our community and is respected for her intellect and compassion. Please join me in congratulating Savannah on her 100th birthday and her lifetime of service.

**HONORING MARTHA HEIDE FOR
HER SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE
OF SOUTHWEST OHIO**

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, I want to pay tribute to a long-time staff member and dear friend, Mrs. Marty Heide, who left my office at the end of April to begin her well-deserved retirement.

Marty and I have worked together for over 33 years. She started her career as an employee at my downtown Dayton, Ohio law firm, and worked in my office during my two terms as mayor of Dayton.

After I was elected to Congress in 2003, Marty spent the next 19 years serving the citizens of Southwest Ohio as a caseworker in my district office, and as District Outreach and Director of Special Events for Greene County.

Marty Heide has touched the hearts of everyone who has had the good fortune to know her and to work with her. She has earned a reputation as an experienced, knowledgeable and sympathetic caseworker who never hesitated to go above and beyond the call of duty to help a constituent, listen to their concerns, work toward a solution—and more often than not, a successful outcome.

Marty was responsible for organizing the annual Congressional Art Competition, to showcase the artistic talents of high school students in the Dayton area. She also directed my Military Service Academy Board, spending countless hours mentoring some of our best and brightest young people, and selecting the future leaders of our Armed Forces for nominations to our Nation's military academies.

Marty has helped literally thousands of my constituents cut through the maze of the Federal bureaucracy—whether they were seniors having trouble obtaining their Social Security or Medicare benefits, or helping to expedite the renewal of a passport, or solving problems with tax returns, or helping a future citizen obtain a green card.

Madam Speaker, I cannot tell you how many times a happy constituent has told me about how Marty helped them, or a close family member, resolve a problem.

The president of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra once contacted my office with an urgent request for an expedited visa to allow a musical group from Canada, Jeans n Classics, to perform for Dayton's annual Summer in the City Musical Festival. He sent me a message, saying that "Marty did a fantastic job in getting this issue resolved quickly and efficiently. We are very, very grateful for Marty's prompt, helpful, and courteous assistance."

A retiree from Beavercreek recently needed help gaining access to funds from his Thrift Savings Plan, which were needed to cover vital living expenses during the coronavirus pandemic. Marty jumped right into action, and the matter was cleared up in a very short period. "Without Marty's skillful intervention," he wrote, "I may still be waiting for TSP to complete my requested transfer of these funds."

After Marty helped expedite the renewal of his son's passport for a trip to Tokyo, a man from Dayton wrote: "My son and I couldn't have completed the Transpacific business/personal trip without Marty's outstanding professionalism and stick-to-itiveness. We were able to bond, spending quality time with each other that'll never be forgotten."

On behalf of myself, and on behalf of the countless Miami Valley residents she has helped, I thank Marty Heide for a job well done. I will be forever grateful for the friendship and support she has given to me, the staff, and the people our congressional district. Her presence in my office will certainly be missed. I wish her and her husband, Randall, a happy, healthy, and productive retirement.

HONORING BRIAN EMERSON OF POINT NORTH NETWORKS

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Small Business Week, May 2–5, 2022, and to thank Brian Emerson of Point North Networks. Brian's dedication to his community in Inver Grove Heights is what fuels Minnesota's Second Congressional District.

Point North Networks draws on Brian's experience of developing and implementing solutions to fulfill the IT needs of smaller businesses throughout the Second Congressional District and Minnesota. Brian has ensured that Point North Networks serves its community with honesty and integrity.

Small businesses like Point North Networks are the backbone of our economy. I'm proud that Brian is a member of my Small Business Taskforce. I'm thankful for his expertise and guidance as we work to shape policies to benefit and strengthen our small business economy.

RECOGNIZING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNAL AUDITORS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) on the occasion of its 80th anniversary and to recognize Internal Audit Awareness Month.

The IIA was founded in 1941 by a small group of auditors based in New York City who understood the importance of the profession as well as its critical role in governance, risk, and control. From these humble beginnings

the IIA has grown tremendously with branches in 170 countries and over 210,000 members. By relentlessly advocating for its members, providing valuable training to students, hosting conferences and so much more the IIA works to uplift this critically important profession.

Madam Speaker, the IIA is a real New York success story. I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the Institute for all that they do to promote the critical field of auditing and wish them continued success.

RECOGNIZING MR. MICHAEL KOBITO AS GEORGIA'S TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. BARRY LOUDERMILK

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Michael Kobito of Bartow County, Georgia as the 2023 Georgia Teacher of the Year, and to commend his exceptional service to students in Bartow County, as well as his incredible contributions to their academic enrichment.

Mr. Kobito teaches AP Music Theory at Woodland High School; and, in addition to providing students with a top-notch instruction in the performing arts, Mr. Kobito leads four concert bands, a 200-member marching band, the school basketball pep band, a jazz band, and the winter guard.

Mr. Kobito's AP Music students achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the AP exam within his first year of teaching, a result of his dedication to their education, as well as their enthusiasm for his class. His teaching philosophy emphasizes the potential of each individual student and encourages them to treat every day as an opportunity to learn and achieve.

As the 2023 Georgia Teacher of the Year, Mr. Kobito will serve as an advocate for Georgia students and educators, and as an ex-officio member of the Georgia State Board of Education. Furthermore, he will compete for the recognition of 2023 National Teacher of the Year.

Once again, I commend Mr. Kobito for his exceptional work as a Georgia educator and congratulate him on achieving this important honor within the Georgia education system. I would also like to acknowledge the runner up, Katie Blum of Sugar Hill Elementary, and all Georgia's Teacher of the Year finalists for their tremendous work and dedication to educating our next generation of successful Georgians.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MOUNT HOOD AND COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE RECREATION ENHANCEMENT AND CONSERVATION (REC) ACT OF 2022

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the Mount Hood and Columbia River Gorge Recreation Enhancement and Conservation (REC) Act of 2022.

Over the last several years, I have listened to feedback from Oregonians, Tribal sovereigns, local elected officials, businesses, and others about Mt. Hood and the Columbia River Gorge. People have shared information about how they use these special places, their concerns, and their proposed solutions to improve management, address wildfire risk, enhance recreation, and protect natural resources. I worked to reflect those views in this legislation, which will create a leading model of Tribal co-management on the Forest, retain and restore healthy ecosystems, develop long term sustainable recreation and transportation plans for the region, and enhance community resilience through climate adaptation and mitigation.

This legislation represents many years of listening to community members and refining ideas. It also remains a work in progress. I look forward to continuing this community-focused effort to protect and improve access to Mount Hood and the Columbia River Gorge.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

HONORING JODI NORGAARDEN OF QUAINT AND QUIRKY BOUTIQUE

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Small Business Week, May 2–5, 2022, and to thank Jodi Norgaarden of Quaint and Quirky Boutique. Jodi's dedication to her community in Hastings is what fuels Minnesota's Second Congressional District.

Quaint and Quirky Boutique features over 100 artists, creators, and authors from Minnesota and Wisconsin. Jodi has taken her over 25 years of sales experience and created a small business that supports communities and people throughout the Second Congressional District and beyond.

Small businesses like Quaint and Quirky Boutique are the backbone of our economy. I'm proud that Jodi is a member of my Small Business Taskforce. I'm thankful for her expertise and guidance as we work to shape policies to benefit and strengthen our small business economy.

HONORING DAVID RAMEY

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with Congressman MIKE THOMPSON, in celebration of David Ramey, who is being honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Sonoma County Vintners Foundation for his exemplary contributions to the winemaking industry.

Mr. Ramey's 43-year career in Napa and Sonoma, including as the founder and owner of Ramey Wine Cellars, is most distinguished by his stewardship of artisan winemaking techniques.

Mr. Ramey graduated from the University of California at Davis in 1979 with a thesis on

volatile ester hydrolysis that is still used today to understand the evolution of aroma in wine. Upon graduation he joined the Moueix family at the renowned Château Pétrus and spent 23 years helping establish a number of wineries including Matanzas Creek, Chalk Hill, Dominus Estate, and Rudd Estate. He and his wife Carla moved to Healdsburg and founded Ramey Wine Cellars in 1996 where they helped shepherd a new California benchmark winemaking style using indigenous yeasts, sur lies aging, and whole-cluster and malolactic barrel fermentation. Mr. Ramey is passionate about the wine industry and continues to provide his expertise to colleagues through consulting work and as Chair of Family Winemakers of California.

Madam Speaker, David Ramey's long-time contributions to the winemaking community have shaped the way that many wines in the United States are made today. Therefore, please join us in congratulating David Ramey for decades of inspiring work in the wine industry and this Lifetime Achievement Award.

HONORING MR. PETER
BONITATIBUS

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Peter Bonitatibus, who is retiring after a tireless 35-year-long career in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' system of higher education. Born in Quincy, Peter has resided in Whitman for the last 20 years with his wife Margaret and their children Sheila, Danny, Justin, and Mary.

Peter is proud to have spent his entire career working with many outstanding police officers, faculty, and staff in several of Massachusetts's finest public institutions of higher learning. Before his retirement, he was considered the key person for all things technological for the University of Massachusetts Boston's Division of Student Affairs. The group includes over 300 part and full-time employees that encompass Police, General Medicine, Counseling, student care, Housing, Activities, Leadership programs, Multicultural Affairs, and student hunger and housing security matters.

Peter is a tireless advocate on behalf of the people he worked with, often going the extra mile to ensure the health and safety of his beloved community. His incredible attention to detail and technical skill have led his colleagues to dub him the "Mr. Spock" of UMass Boston. A badge he wears with honor, as he is a great fan of Star Trek.

Peter began his career in 1986 as a police officer at Framingham State College. He then worked at Bridgewater State College and finally served at UMass Boston, where he was elevated to Sergeant and then hired as UMass Boston's Director of Student Affairs Technology Services. During his career until his recent retirement, Peter has been recognized as a national leader in the security technology profession and served as the Education Chair for the Boston Chapter of ASIS International.

A dedicated family man, Peter and his wife Margaret raised their four beloved children in Whitman. Through his example, his children now work in public service and law enforce-

ment and continue Peter's legacy of giving back to the community and a life of serving others.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Peter's service, thank him, and wish him well in retirement.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
DOROTHY THIGPEN

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, today I want to honor the memory of Dorothy Jean Thigpen, a long-time resident of Detroit, Michigan.

Born and raised in Tennessee, her life's journey took her from rural Tennessee to Detroit's Jeffries projects to the Manoogian Mansion and finally to the rural suburbs of Virginia.

As a child, her family moved to Michigan, where she spent time in Albion and Detroit. As a student attending Detroit's Central High School, she met and married the love of her life George Westly Thigpen, Jr. on October 11, 1958. From their union, she had seven daughters and one son. Her young family lived in many places around the city of Detroit.

During the 70s and as her family grew, she put her skills to work sewing parachutes at a downtown armed forces factory. Shortly after the Vietnam War ended, Dorothy got a job at Fisher Body as a power sewer making car seats for luxury vehicles. She retired from Fisher Body after more than 20 years of service on a medical retirement in 2000.

A working mother, Dorothy ensured her children took their education seriously. Her house was always filled with music and weekly routines. Because discipline was primary for Dorothy, she was famous for her "I can show you better than I can tell you" lessons. She required her children to have fun outdoors and charged them to be creative, athletic, and come home before the streetlights come on.

Above all, Dorothy Thigpen's life was filled with love, service, and her faith. She enjoyed her time spent with family and friends, enjoying all life had to offer. Please join me in honoring her memory.

HONORING JON ERICKSON OF
ANGRY INCH BREWING

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Small Business Week, May 2–5, 2022, and to thank Jon Erickson of Angry Inch Brewing. Jon's dedication to his community in Lakeville is what fuels Minnesota's Second Congressional District.

As Lakeville's first craft brewery, Angry Inch has become a central part of historic downtown Lakeville. When Jon turned his hobby for home brewing into something bigger, he and all the staff at Angry Inch showcased how a small business can serve a community.

Small businesses like Angry Inch Brewing are the backbone of our economy. I'm proud that Jon is a member of my Small Business

Taskforce. I'm thankful for his expertise and guidance as we work to shape policies to benefit and strengthen our small business economy.

RECOGNIZING EFREM FESAHA FOR
HIS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE
AS A DEDICATED COMMUNITY
MEMBER AND SMALL BUSINESS
OWNER

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Efrem Fesaha for his many years of service as a dedicated community member and small business owner. Having first founded Boon Boona Coffee in 2012, Efrem has grown his business to now include multiple locations that employ more than 20 people. This year, Efrem was awarded the 2022 Small Businessperson of the Year by both the SBA of Washington State and of the Pacific Northwest Region due to his outstanding work navigating the challenges posed by the pandemic while fostering inclusive and welcoming spaces at his shops. He is one of ten finalists for SBA's National Small Businessperson of the Year.

Efrem founded Boon Boona Coffee after visiting his family in Eritrea and drawing inspiration from East African coffee. He has dedicated his business to bringing the rich culture of East African Coffee to the Seattle area. Not only has Efrem greatly contributed to the culture of Washington's 9th district, he has also set out to create a positive impact globally, sourcing fresh coffee beans from African producers and women-owned growers.

The SBA's recognition of Efrem's achievements is well-deserved and speaks to his strong character, work ethic, and understanding of the importance of creating welcoming environments for community members to gather.

Madam Speaker, it is my privilege and honor to recognize Efrem Fesaha for his outstanding career achievements and for his contributions to our community.

DENOUNCING TREATMENT OF
AMERICAN HERO AND VETERAN,
AIRMAN BRIAN KOLFAGE

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to expose the shameful treatment of Iraq war veteran Brian Kolfage by the U.S. Government.

Airman Kolfage lost three limbs defending our country in the Iraq war. While serving a second tour of duty in Iraq in 2004, a rocket shell exploded 25 feet from him. Due to his tenacity and determination, he shocked his doctors and left Walter Reed after only 11 months. He earned a Purple Heart and is the most wounded airman ever to have survived a war in the history of our country.

Brian Kolfage's service to country did not end with his military valor. Incredibly, he ran a

private organization that helped build 3 miles of border wall along the Rio Grande river, a place where construction is difficult due to the great potential for erosion.

So how do our corrupt elites treat this hero? They respond like they did to the many peaceful protesters on January 6, to the pro-life protesters facing over 10 years for trying to save the unborn, or to anyone who disagrees with their globalist, America-last agenda. They persecute them; they make their lives a living hell; they ruin them.

As our ruling elites were not happy that the illegal hordes could not continue to stream across the border, they activated their deep-state machinery and sent their secret police to arrest Airman Kolfage. Fifteen Federal law enforcement goons dragged him out of his house without a wheelchair, subjecting him to utter humiliation and pain in front of his family. No thought whatsoever was given to his disabled status. And in prison, the VA refused him pain medications, without which he suffers unbearable pain.

Mr. Kolfage had worked tirelessly, 12 hours a day, for several years to get this 3-mile section of wall built. He ran and operated the organization that got it done. For taking a salary, the Federal Government arrested him, saying he had no right to get paid anything because his website said any money raised would go to build the wall. In my view, he was part of getting the wall built. There was nothing wrong with him getting a salary and saying the money would be used to build the wall. Without him, it would not have been complete, and no real American would object to a man getting paid to devote himself to a selfless project like this one and succeeding.

Airman Kolfage was just intimidated into taking a plea deal by our third-world, kangaroo-court judicial system. This veteran and activist should be celebrated as a hero in so many ways. Instead, he will rot in a Federal prison. A greater injustice is hard to imagine. To his wife, Ashley, and two children, my heart goes out to them. I am praying for them all. Please know that I will continue to fight against the injustice done to her husband.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF
PILGRIM REST BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. RUBEN GALLEG0

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. GALLEG0. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, which will celebrate its 100th anniversary this month.

Founded in 1922 by Reverends Jake Howard, R. Thomas, and M. Boyd, Pilgrim Rest has been serving the Phoenix community ever since. In addition to its well over twenty ministries, Pilgrim Rest offers a wide range of human services that assist not only their congregation, but any in the community who are in need. These services include family support, employment assistance, a monthly food bank, and much more. As the church has grown, Pilgrim Rest has expanded its sanctuary, built the Word Center to house classrooms and the Family Services Resource Center, and opened the Wellness Center to care for the physical body as well as the soul.

Since 2018, Pilgrim Rest has been under the able leadership of Pastor Terry E. Mackey, who has continued to develop Pilgrim Rest and the community it serves. Pilgrim Rest's mission is to be, "like a city that sits upon a hill; a beacon of hope for all." They have been spreading that hope for the last 100 years, and I look forward to seeing all they will do next.

I would like to again congratulate Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church on 100 years of faith and service.

HONORING THE TYLER JUNIOR
COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
TEAM 2021-2022 NJCAA DIVISION 1
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL NA-
TIONAL CHAMPIONS

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, it is with enormous pride that I recognize and congratulate the Tyler Junior College Lady Apaches on an outstanding basketball season in which they captured the National Junior College Athletic Association Division 1 Women's National Championship title.

Throughout the 2021-2022 season, the Lady Apaches developed a reputation with one of the top offenses in the country, averaging 78.8 points per game, making it apparent that the Lady Apaches were a force with which to be reckoned. Entering the NJCAA tournament with a season record of 23-8 and as the No. 17 seed, the Lady Apaches were underdogs in each of their five games in the tournament. However, they demonstrated their hard work and determination to earn a spot in the championship game.

The Lady Apaches demonstrated incredible focus and skill to clinch the National Championship over the Georgia Highlands Lady Chargers with a final score of 92-80. It is an esteemed honor to pay tribute to the team members and coaches of the 2021-2022 NJCAA Division 1 Women's Basketball National Champions: Veonce Powell (No. 1), Nassarine William (No. 3), Tia Morgan (No. 4), Nadechka Laccen (No. 5), Emari Sidney (No. 10), Shadiya Thomas (No. 12), Brianna Garrett (No. 13), Trinittee Alexander (No. 20), Taryn Wills (No. 21), Jasmine Payne (No. 22), Deborah Ogayemi (No. 23), Daijah Torns (No. 24), Head Coach Trenia Tillis-Hoard, Assistant Coach Chelsea Hudson, Assistant Coach Brianna Brooks, Student Assistant Coach Brynn Sultz, and Manager Keaira Grant.

This tribute goes out to all of the amazing athletic staff and support staff at Tyler Junior College including the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Kevin Vest; Assistant Athletic Director Kelsi Weeks; Associate Athletic Director Chuck Smith; Administrative Assistant Jordan Jones; Head Athletic Trainer Eddy McGuire; Assistant Athletic Trainer Victoria Morris; Student Trainer Paige Arkfeld; Student Trainer Haven Bengi; Registrar Records/State Reports Coordinator Denny Yarbrough; Enrollment Support Services Specialist Erica Thurman, and all other personnel that contributed to this amazing championship season.

An athletic team cannot achieve any true level of excellence without unwavering support

from its school leaders including President Dr. Juan E. Mejia; Provost Dr. Deana Sheppard; and Associate Vice Provost of Student Affairs Dr. Tim Drain. That is exactly the kind of support the Lady Apaches experienced from the entire community of Tyler and Smith County. That is why congratulations go to all the outstanding family, friends, and fans who contributed to the success of the Lady Apaches during this championship season.

The accomplishment of Deborah Ogayemi (forward) should be of particular note, who averaged 17 rebounds a game during the tournament and was voted the Tournament's Most Valuable Player. Joining her on the All-Tournament Team were teammates Shadiya Thomas (guard) and Taryn Wills (guard). Head Coach Trenia Tillis-Hoard is to be congratulated for receiving the Coach of the Tournament award.

This is not just a feat for the basketball team but for the entire college. This represents the 67th national championship in the school's history as a NJCAA Division 1 contender. Furthermore, the Lady Apaches were in the national tournament for the fifth time in six years and in the national championship game for the third time ever. This will be the first National Championship the Lady Apaches have won since their only other championship win in 2000. This speaks highly of the hard work and dedication of the men and women and the excellent coaching staff at Tyler Junior College.

It is with great pride that I join with all of east Texas in congratulating the Lady Apaches basketball team on their NJCAA Division 1 National Championship. May God continue to bless these consummate first-class competitors, along with their families, friends, and neighbors in east Texas. This outstanding accomplishment is now preserved, which will endure as long as there is a United States of America.

HONORING LARK TOYS

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Small Business Week, May 2-5, 2022, and to thank the entire Lark Toys family, Kathy and Ron Gray and Miranda and Scott Gray-Burlingame. Their dedication to their community in Kellogg is what fuels Minnesota's Second Congressional District.

Lark Toys has proven that small, family-owned and operated businesses can rise to national prominence. Miranda and the staff at Lark Toys combine a multitude of skills to bring happiness to children and families throughout the Second Congressional District and beyond.

Small businesses like Lark Toys are the backbone of our economy. I'm proud that Miranda is a member of my Small Business Taskforce. I'm thankful for her expertise and guidance as we work to shape policies to benefit and strengthen our small business economy.

HONORING D.C.'S 2022 GREEN
RIBBON SCHOOLS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating two District of Columbia schools on being recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as Green Ribbon Schools.

For the past 11 years, the Department of Education has recognized schools for their sustainability practices. Since 2011, 11 schools in the District have been recognized as Green Ribbon Schools. This year, J.G. Whittier Elementary School and American University were selected as Green Ribbon Schools.

J.G. Whittier Elementary School, located in Manor Park in Northwest D.C., was established in 1926 and serves 324 students in grades K–8. The school recently held a Sustainability Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) Day, which allowed students to learn about sustainability and the effect that we have on the environment, as well as to engage in project-based activities connecting their learning. I applaud J.G. Whittier Elementary School for its recognition as a Green Ribbon School.

Located in Spring Valley in Northwest D.C., American University helps students to learn, research and work to spark positive change in their neighborhood and the world. Established in 1893 by an Act of Congress, American University enrolls 14,000 students in its undergraduate and graduate programs. American University has a proud history of sustainability, which includes becoming one of the first universities in the Nation to reach carbon neutrality, in 2018. I applaud American University for its recognition as a Green Ribbon School.

Madam Speaker, again, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating J.G. Whittier Elementary School and American University for their recognition as Green Ribbon Schools.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF MARY FRANCINE “MERRI
DEE” DORHAM

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 6, 2022

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life and legacy of an extraordinary woman, journalist, television broadcast legend, and philanthropist, Mary Francine “Merri Dee” Dorham.

Merri was born in Chicago, Illinois on October 30, 1936. While she grew up in New Orleans, Louisiana, she returned to Chicago as a teenager where she graduated from Englewood Technical Prep Academy High School in 1955. After graduating, Merri attended Xavier University in New Orleans, where she was a business administration major. Although she had to drop out to support her siblings, her passion for journalism would land her at WBEE in 1966 and, two years later, Merri began hosting an entertainment program at WCIU on Saturday nights.

In 1971, Merri's popularity on local television resulted in her having her own talk show, “The Merri Dee Show” on independent station, WSNS-Channel 44. That year, Merri faced a personal tragedy when she and a talk show guest were kidnapped from the television station and nearly killed. She survived this horrendous incident and made it her life's mission to advocate for victims of gun violence. She lobbied state and local public officials in passing Illinois' first victims' bill of rights, which would become a model for other states.

In 1972, Merri became an anchor for WGN-TV's 9 p.m. newscast, becoming the first African American lead anchor for a news station in a major U.S. city. For the next three decades, she would play a pivotal role at the station as a senior leader, including serving as WGN's Community Relations Director. In this capacity, Merri was a liaison between the station and the many social and community organizations around town and managed multiple public service campaigns, including hosting

countless broadcasts of the legendary Bud Billiken Parade, the nation's largest and longest running African American parade, annually attended by one million onlookers and two thousand parade participants.

Merri's philanthropic commitment was consistent beyond her professional career. She participated in several charities and organizations including the Chicago-based program Athletes for a Better Education—a charity she founded. She was a yearly fixture as television host for the United Negro College Fund's “Evening of Stars” for nearly two decades, in addition to hosting numerous telethons for the Easterseals.

Throughout the next 40 years, Merri would spotlight her love for children through several on-air segments, including “The Waiting Child,” which focused on children in the foster system in need of an adoptive home. Her impact was recognized by then-Illinois Governor Jim Edgar, who recognized her with a commendation in 1998 for helping to increase state adoptions by more than 50 percent. Her hard work and dedication also earned her the Adoption Excellence Award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in 2004.

Merri Dee was a trailblazer in the world of broadcast journalism for young Black women paving a path for increasing diversity in newsrooms. She was a committed mentor, an author, and devoted leader in her community led by her faith, forgiveness, and grace. A recipient of countless awards and accolades, she was inducted in the National Association of Black Journalists Hall of Fame and served as the president of Illinois' AARP chapter. She was an incredible leader; a compassionate; a kind professional and gloriously gifted friend with a broad, welcoming million-dollar smile.

Her loss is deeply felt in Chicago, the Nation, and across the entire world. My thoughts and prayers are with her family, loved ones, and to all who were impacted by her wonderful spirit.