

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HAZEL ERBY

HON. CORI BUSH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Ms. BUSH. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that Saint Louis and I rise to commemorate the life of councilwoman Hazel Erby.

There are no words that can truly encapsulate what Hazel Erby meant to the St. Louis region. She was a true personification of a public servant. She served with grace, class, integrity, and most importantly from a deep place in her heart—a place that was filled with love for her community. That love was always evidenced by the vigor, passion, and unrelenting disposition she would approach her work with. She was a community icon and a legislative trailblazer, unafraid of going where others would not venture to go and speaking when many stayed silent. During my run for office, she maintained her love and support of me and she was a bedrock of encouragement when I needed it most. I faced so many obstacles throughout my political journey and her unyielding support and encouragement to both me and my staff will be etched in my heart forever. Hazel Erby was driven by doing what's right for all people, starting with those among us who have the least because she clearly understood that's what matters.

"Mama Hazel"'s legacy will be felt for years to come as it is in the work she accomplished and all of the lives she touched. She was deeply committed to equity in government funding and was instrumental in establishing legislation that outlined standards and requirements for minority participation in government contracts. She also played a key role in securing funds for a recreation center in St. Louis County. Hazel Erby had a vision for St. Louis County, and she worked tirelessly on and off platforms and stages to see that vision become a reality.

We are deeply saddened by the loss of this community giant, and I, like the rest of my community, am mourning her death. That said, I take great comfort and joy in the fact that she is left this world with an empty cup because she's poured so much of herself out for the betterment of our world. I'd say there is no better way to live. We are no doubt indebted to her for the service she's paid to our community.

I thank Hazel Erby.

HONORING LIEUTENANT GENERAL
FRANCIS M. BEAUDETTE FOR 32
YEARS OF MILITARY SERVICE

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant General Francis M.

Beaudette for 32 years of distinguished military service.

Lt. Gen. Beaudette has made immeasurable contributions to our great Nation and continues to personify the core U.S. Army values of honor, integrity, personal courage, and selfless service. He began his career in 1989 as a military intelligence officer and retires as the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg.

After graduating from The Citadel, Lt. Gen. Beaudette went on to serve as a battalion assistant, crewmember, and armor platoon leader in Germany, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq. He completed Special Forces training in 1995 and was assigned to the 3rd Special Forces Group before serving as the aide-de-camp to the commanding general of the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School and the aide-de-camp to the deputy commanding general of Kosovo Forces.

Over the course of his extraordinary career, Lt. Gen. Beaudette has answered the call to duty many times. He previously served as the Deputy Commanding General of the 1st Armored Division, Assistant Commander of the Joint Special Operations Command, and Commanding General of the 1st Special Forces Command. Lt. Gen. Beaudette retires as a decorated military leader and true American hero, having earned some of the most prestigious awards bestowed by our military. He represents the best our Nation has to offer, and his legacy of leadership will be felt for generations.

As Fort Bragg's Congressman, I know I speak for our Nation and our community when I say we are truly grateful for Lt. Gen. Beaudette's extraordinary service and cannot thank him enough. I have personally benefited from his friendship and counsel and would like to offer my sincerest appreciation and wish him success in his future endeavors.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Lieutenant General Francis M. Beaudette for 32 years of military service.

CELEBRATING RETIRED NAVY
CAPTAIN GILES M. KELLY'S
100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor retired Navy Captain Giles M. Kelly, a member of the Greatest Generation. Today, July 17, 2021, Captain Kelly, celebrates his 100th birthday, and I commemorate his exceptional and dedicated service to our nation.

Captain Kelly, the son of an electrical engineer and an educator, was born in Bronxville, New York. He graduated from New York State Merchant Marine Academy in 1942 and reported for duty as a Navy Reserve in the Pacific during the Second World War. He continued his studies at Williams College, and in

1951, he completed a master's degree in public affairs at Princeton University. He was recalled to active duty during the Vietnam War, acting as chief of public affairs at the North American Treaty Organization (NATO)'s Atlantic Command in Norfolk, Virginia.

Captain Kelly also worked for Central Intelligence Agency and the State Department as a foreign service officer in Europe and Africa. He commanded the former presidential yacht Sequoia from 1983 to 1988 and wrote a book about the historic ship. Further, Captain Kelly was an adjunct professor of seamanship and sailing at American University, worked at the Smithsonian Institution, and was the owner and director of the Gangplank Sailing School.

On this, his 100th birthday, Captain Kelly has our appreciation for his long and faithful service and the best wishes of Congress in celebrating this momentous occasion.

IN MEMORY OF SENATOR TOM
BUFORD

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor a special Kentuckian, Senator Tom Buford, from Nicholasville, Kentucky.

Tom Buford was a lifelong Kentuckian. He was born in 1949 and graduated from Jessamine County High School and the University of Kentucky. Senator Buford received further education from the American Institute of Banking. He was elected to the Kentucky State Senate in 1991. He represented the people of Senate District 22 until his passing on July 6, 2021.

In Kentucky's Senate, Senator Buford served as Minority Whip from 1991–92 and Minority Caucus Chair from 1993–96. At the time of his death he held seats on the Licensing and Occupations, Appropriations and Revenue, and Banking and Insurance committees. In his more than thirty years in the Senate, he sponsored many important pieces of legislation. Senator Buford had a particular interest in support for the disabled and for animal welfare.

Senator Buford was highly regarded by his colleagues in the Kentucky Senate and by all who knew him. He was a great storyteller and he knew the value of humor. After serving for thirty years, he acquired great institutional knowledge of the Senate. He was known as a kind and humble man, a true servant leader. He leaves behind his wife Carol, children Stephanie and Beau, and his precious grandchildren. Senator Buford will be greatly missed.

It is my humble honor to lift up the memory of a great Kentucky gentleman and a dedicated leader, Senator Tom Buford, before the United States Congress.

• 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 BRAD AND CAROL
WHITMORE AS IOWANS OF THE
WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Brad and Carol Whitmore, two remarkable veterans, as Iowans of the Week. Over the Fourth of July weekend, I couldn't think of better honorees than two individuals who not only served our country for many years but have since continued their service to the country by doing incredible work to support and advocate for fellow veterans.

Carol Whitmore served in the U.S. Army, and has been honored with over 20 medals, ribbons, and badges from her 36 years of service. Following her service, Carol earned a Gold Legacy Life membership with the VFW Post 9127 in Des Moines. She has served in many leadership roles, ranging from the Post, District, and Department levels to the National stage. Carol is a member of the Governor's Veterans Council and sits on the National Council as a representative for the Iowa VFW. As a legislative advocate on both local and national levels, she continues to fight for veteran's rights.

Carol is particularly passionate about women's issues and helping homeless veterans at the Des Moines Homeless Shelter. When asked what she is especially proud of, Carol mentioned becoming a State Commander for the VFW and working with homeless veterans in the state.

Brad Whitmore, a native of Des Moines, enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1970 and volunteered to go to Vietnam a year later. He then served one tour and volunteered again for a second tour, then received an Honorable Discharge from the Army in 1976. Brad reenlisted in the Army Reserve in 1988 and found employment in the civilian world as a surgical tech, later earning an associate degree from Des Moines Area Community College for Nursing in 1994. The same year, Brad changed his civilian job to become a surgical nurse and was promoted to Second Lieutenant in the Army. In 1999, he and Carol married, and Brad retired in 2005 after 26 years of service.

After his retirement, Brad was elected Quarter Master of his VFW post in Beaverdale in 2012 and was elected four years later as Quarter Master of Iowa's 5th District. Brad became Chairman of Iowa's National Legislative Committee, and he continues to do legislative work raising awareness about veteran's issues on the national level. His current project is working on the Richard Starr Act, which aims to protect medically discharged veterans. Brad said he is most proud of supporting his wife and admires all that she does to improve the lives of veterans.

I want to thank the Whitmores not only for the years they served in the Army, but for all the work they continue to do, and for the time they have dedicated to helping veterans. I am inspired by Brad and Carol's stories, and I am committed to supporting our nation's veterans, just as they both are. It is my pleasure to recognize Brad and Carol Whitmore as Iowans of the Week.

OCCASION OF CENTENNIAL OF THE
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
ACT

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mr. CASE. Madam Speaker, last Friday, my colleague, Congressman KAIALI'I KAHELE (Hawaii—Second), and I gathered here on Capitol Hill with leaders of our Native Hawaiian community and partners in the advancement of Native Hawaiians everywhere to recognize the centennial of the enactment, on July 9, 1921, of a truly revolutionary law, the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, to honor the times and memory of its author, Hawaii Delegate to Congress Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalanianaʻole, and to reflect on and commit to the path still ahead.

That afternoon, we came together on the East grounds of the Capitol, directly outside the House chamber where Kūhiō served for almost two decades, to share our mana'o (thoughts) on this momentous day. I would like to share here my own remarks on behalf of all throughout our Hawaii who I am privileged to represent:

To my colleague and friend, Congressman Kahele, our incredible guests that are here with us today, and our friends and ʻohana watching everywhere, Aloha.

As I stand with you today, I have so many conflicting thoughts and emotions.

We are here on hallowed grounds that for centuries now have stood for the very best of humanity, and yet we are also on ground that at a bare minimum tolerated the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom.

We are on grounds that have advanced equality, opportunity, compassion and justice, and yet have sanctioned so much trial and tragedy for our indigenous peoples.

We are on grounds where just one year ago, we gathered to bid aloha to one of the great icons of the civil rights movement, my colleague John Lewis, and yet it is this very ground from which was launched an attack on our Capitol and democracy by our own fellow citizens.

This land is riddled with contradictions. As it was when Prince Kūhiō came to Congress as the first Native Hawaiian to serve almost 120 years ago.

Kūhiō spoke then of the urgency and despair of a people facing extinction in their own land. That was no idle concern. It had in fact happened to other indigenous peoples throughout our country and world; their peoples and cultures are simply no more.

There were then just perhaps 40,000 Native Hawaiians. The life expectancy of Native Hawaiians was but thirty years. They were increasingly not living on the land as had dozens of generations before them, but in the tenements of Honolulu in dire circumstances.

And yet, Kūhiō entrusted his people to this still-new country, a country of promise but that had not shown it was deserving of that trust. And he devoted his next two decades toward advancing his people and to prove that his trust had not been misplaced.

As Congressman Kahele has said, the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, signed one hundred years ago today, was his singular accomplishment. But what was Prince Kūhiō's legacy? What did it all add up to?

History is fickle. We're all judged by our successes and failures, our achievements and our shortcomings (of course always in hindsight and without the context of the times).

But I would make these three observations about Kūhiō, looking back from the distance of history and as someone who is not Native Hawaiian.

First, he was exactly the right person for his time and place. Not just for Native Hawaiians, but for all of us whose ancestors and lifeblood lay then and now in Hawaii.

Second, the Kanaka Maoli did not, unlike many of their brothers and sisters, fade from this Earth. Native Hawaiians now number in the hundreds of thousands throughout our country and world, proudly reclaiming and perpetuating their history and culture and contributing alongside all others who seek a better path forward.

Third, Kūhiō, as the first Native Hawaiian leader to step forward onto the national stage, exemplified what proud, principled and capable Hawaiian leadership is, setting the standard for so many of us who followed down the road he paved.

But history is never complete, and the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act is a perfect example. As one Kanaka Maoli leader noted recently, the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act was beautifully conceived but did not deliver in its implementation. In that the Act is its own story, and now we must turn the page toward better chapters.

Today, I follow and support Congressman Kahele in finding and forging that next chapter. For yesterday's achievements are just tomorrow's foundations, and yesterday's failures are just tomorrow's opportunities.

I am so deeply humbled with the responsibility—for all of us wherever we are for whom Hawaii is and always will be our true home—to partner with you in these next chapters of renewed opportunity and hope. Thank you. Mahalo.

REMEMBERING SERGEANT La
DAVID T. JOHNSON ON THE OC-
CASION OF HIS INDUCTION AS
AN HONORARY GREEN BERET

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Sergeant La David T. Johnson on the occasion of his induction as an honorary member of the United States Army Special Forces, or "Green Berets."

SGT Johnson is an American hero who laid down his life in the line of duty and to save the lives of his teammates on Wednesday, October 4, 2017 in southwest Niger. Assigned to the 3rd Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg, he personified the values of honor, integrity, personal courage, and selfless service.

SGT Johnson enlisted in the United States Army in January 2014 and after completing Advanced Individual Training and earning the Military Occupational Specialty 91B Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic, he was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group. SGT Johnson served our nation with distinction and valor, and his decorations include the Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, and Global War on Terrorism Medal.

A role model among his peers in the 3rd Special Forces Group, SGT Johnson represents the best our nation has to offer. His work helped secure and protect our homeland for generations to come and today we honor his sacrifice. While our country can never

repay this debt, I will do everything in my power to honor SGT Johnson's life and ensure that his legacy lives on forever.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring the life and legacy of Sergeant La David T. Johnson on the occasion of his induction as an honorary Green Beret.

RECOGNIZING CMSGT BRIAN MARQUARDT ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AFTER 33 YEARS OF HONORABLE SERVICE

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mrs. McCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Chief Master Sergeant Brian Marquardt of Harrison Township on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Air Force after 33 years of honorable service.

After growing up in Saint Clair Shores, CMSgt Marquardt entered the Air Force in July 1988. After completing basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas, he was assigned to the 88th Medical Group at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio for on-the-job training as an Aerospace Medical Technician. His subsequent career includes various aspects of the medical technician field and included Aeromedical Evacuation, Aeromedical Staging and Transportation, and most recently, a ground medical unit with a physical exam package and a shared Air Force Theater Hospital.

His last position was as the Senior Enlisted Advisor for the 910th Medical Squadron at Youngstown Air Reserve Station in Ohio. In this role he advised the commander on matters concerning the health, morale, welfare, and the effective utilization of the Reserve members within the squadron. He also served as the commander's representative to numerous committees, councils, boards, and military and civilian functions. Prior to assuming this most recent position, he served as the Functional Manager for the Aerospace Medical Technician career field at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, as well as Youngstown Air Reserve Station.

CMSgt Marquardt has received numerous awards and decorations including Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Aerial Achievement Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Unit Award with 2 oak leaf cluster, AF Outstanding Unit Award with Valor Device and 2 oak leaf clusters, Iraqi Campaign Medal with one service star and the Humanitarian Service Medal.

CMSgt Marquardt has given over three decades of his life in service to our country. I commend him for this selfless display of love and patriotism. He has certainly made his home state of Michigan proud, and I know the example of service he has set will be followed for years to come. I wish CMSgt Marquardt the best as he takes on life's next great adventure. We are so thankful for his service.

TRIBUTE TO DENA BARON

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dena Baron, a long-time member of the professional staff of the House Appropriations Committee, who is retiring after more than 25 years of service in the Federal Government.

Dena began her career at the Environmental Protection Agency in 1995. While a budget analyst at the Environmental Protection Agency, she was detailed to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development.

Following her detail, in 1999, Dena became professional staff for the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development. In 2004, she moved to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation and Treasury until the House Appropriations Committee reorganized in the 109th Congress. Following the reorganization, Dena became Clerk for the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, and the District of Columbia.

When the House of Representatives switched control in 2007, and the House Appropriations Committee underwent another reorganization setting the subcommittees to their current form, Dena became Minority Clerk for the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee. Continuing her trend of versatility, Dena simultaneously worked on the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Financial Services and General Government subcommittees.

When the Republicans took control of the House of Representatives in the 112th Congress, Dena became Clerk for the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and then in 2017, she became Clerk for the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government.

When the House of Representatives switched control in 2019, as only fitting, Dena ventured into uncharted territory and became Minority Clerk for the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security. This opportunity presented a range of new challenges, and she, once again, demonstrated her ability to handle any task put before her and performed remarkably.

Dena was an exceptional member of the Appropriations Committee staff for more than twenty years, and she served on my staff for three of those years. I asked Dena to work on some of the most divisive issues of the day, and she saw us through one of the longest government shutdowns in history two years ago by finding common ground with her colleagues.

Dena has spent many hours away from her loved ones over the course of her long Federal career, and I know she is looking forward to spending more time with her husband, Jim Smith, her son, Andrew, and her daughter, Emily. Dena will be greatly missed, and I wish her the best in her next chapter and thank her for her dedicated service to the United States.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL BRIAN J. MENNES FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE DURING HIS TENURE AT FORT DRUM

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Major General Brian J. Mennes for his service to the United States of America over the course of his 33-year career with the U.S. Army and his two years in command of Fort Drum in Northern New York, which I proudly represent.

Major General Mennes graduated from the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York in 1988 and immediately commissioned into the U.S. Army as an Infantry officer. Since then, MG Mennes has deployed three times in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and five times in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. In addition to leading the famed 10th Mountain Division, MG Mennes has also served in the storied 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. A highly decorated officer, MG Mennes is known for his exceptional leadership skills, commitment to his soldiers and families, and ability to cultivate a supportive community. MG Mennes easily fit into the culture of the North Country and leaves Fort Drum after changing it for the better.

During his tenure at Fort Drum, Major General Mennes was influential in ensuring his soldiers were combat-ready while building a strong support system within the community. He led the 10th Mountain Division through an Afghanistan deployment and drawdown as the U.S. prepares to bring our troops home after nearly twenty years in the country. In addition, MG Mennes has faced unprecedented challenges in commanding Fort Drum through the Coronavirus pandemic where he was responsible for the lives, health, and safety of thousands of soldiers, families, and civilians.

On behalf of New York's 21st district and the entire Fort Drum community, I would like to thank Major General Mennes for his exceptional leadership and continued investment in his community. I congratulate him on his achievements thus far and wish him the best of luck during his next assignment at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington.

HONORING COLONEL ANDREW J. SHORT

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Colonel Andrew J. "Coby" Short, who is relinquishing his command of the Pittsburgh District of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, where he has served since 2018. Colonel Short came to the Pittsburgh District of the Army Corps, following an assignment at the U.S. Army War College. Colonel Short is a native of Bedford, Indiana. Following his graduation from the U.S. Army Military Academy with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Systems Engineering, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in 1997.

He also holds a Master of Science Degree in Engineering Management from the Missouri University of Science and Technology, a Master of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Virginia, a Master of Business Administration from Indiana University and a Master of Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College. He is also a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College, Combined Arms Service Staff School, Engineer Captain's Career Course, and the Engineer Officer Basic Course.

His first duty station was Fort Campbell, KY where he served as a Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer and Assistant Operations Officer in 326th Engineer Battalion, 101st Airborne Division. While there, he deployed to Kosovo with 1-187 Infantry Battalion. Colonel Short was then assigned to the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, NY as the Assistant Operations Officer for 41st Engineer Battalion and then commanded Alpha Company, 41st Engineer Battalion; later Alpha Company, 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion. During his time in command, he deployed to Afghanistan with 1st Brigade, 10th Mountain Division. After command, Colonel Short served as the Aide-de-Camp to the Commanding General, 10th Mountain Division. He next served as a Project Engineer at Langley Air Force Base, VA with the Norfolk District, United States Army Corps of Engineers. He was subsequently assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg where he deployed to Afghanistan as part of CJTF-82 and served as the Deputy Division Engineer. He then served consecutively as Operations Officer of 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion in 3rd Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division, Operations Officer of the 20th Engineer Brigade, and Executive Officer of the 20th Engineer Brigade. Colonel Short then served as the Executive Officer to the Deputy Commanding General of FORSCOM. Most recently, he commanded the 91st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood for 31 months where he deployed to both Eastern Europe as part of Operation Atlantic Resolve and to the Republic of Korea.

Colonel Short has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Joint Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, and other awards and decorations. He has earned the Ranger Tab, Sapper Tab, Combat Action Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and been awarded the Bronze Order of the deFleury Medal.

I would like to thank Colonel Short for his dedication to public service. Not only was he a great help to me and my staff, but he was also committed to helping the constituents in my district. I applaud him for his distinguished career of service as a dedicated member of the Army Corps of Engineers and wish him well in his retirement.

HONORING VIRGINIA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY SOFTBALL'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP VICTORY

HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Virginia Wesleyan University

Softball Marlins upon winning the 2021 NCAA Division III Championship. This was no easy task, and it took extraordinary skill, character, and determination to complete this difficult achievement.

This national championship victory is the Marlin's third title in the last four complete seasons, having also won in 2017 and 2018. After having their 2020 season cut short due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Virginia Wesleyan returned to the field in 2021 in dominant fashion, winning 46 games while only losing six times and tying once. After seeing the championship series against Texas Lutheran University tied after two games, the Marlins displayed their might, winning the final game with a score of nine runs to one.

It is truly an honor to have such outstanding champions represent our community. I congratulate all the members of the Virginia Wesleyan Softball Marlins on this tremendous accomplishment, and I wish the program the best of luck in the seasons to come.

RECOGNITION OF MR. JOHN LYNKEY'S SERVICE TO CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mr. GIMENEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding career of one Mr. John Lynskey for his service in: educating, coaching and mentoring the young men at Christopher Columbus High School for the last 37 years.

Mr. John Lynskey has dedicated the last 37 years of his life to educating and teaching the students of Christopher Columbus High School what it takes to become a responsible man. What began as a teaching/coaching career in 1984, evolved into a prestigious reputation as one of the schools finest and most respected mentors to thousands of Explorers who have walked the halls of Christopher Columbus. Mr. Lynskey is one of the few Explorers inducted into both the School's main hall of fame and Athletic Hall of Fame; he joins the ranks with several professional athletes including: former NFL Quarterback Brian Griese, MLB outfielder Jon Jay, and Olympic athlete Eddie Alvarez (just to name a few).

Although the entire Christopher Columbus community alumni and students will miss Mr. Lynskey, he is leaving behind an unshakeable legacy. From teaching Social Studies for over thirty years and more recently as the Dean of Students, to having his own Podcast (Looking Back with Lynskey) John Lynskey will be remembered as more than just an educator and administrator but as truly a Renaissance man in the realm of education in the South Florida Community.

John Lynskey will be moving to Macon, GA to be the director of the legendary Allman Brothers Band Museum but will remain active in the Development Department for the school in the years to come.

Moving forward (Adelante).

CELEBRATING LOLITA GUERRERO'S 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Lolita Guerrero's 80th Birthday.

Lolita is a beloved friend and member of our community, my district, and my staff. She is a longtime Houston community leader, trail-blazer in Latino women rights, and activist. I am proud to have Lolita on my staff because not only is she a leader in the Latino movement, but she truly knows our community, our issues, what moves us, and how to help.

Her service and dedication to our community is incomparable. She is always there to lend a helping hand to my community's Latinos and seniors. She truly cares. She is an inspiring role model for many young Latinas. Ms. Guerrero has advanced the Latino community through her work with LULAC, where she was elected the first woman to serve as the Texas state director.

I am grateful for the years I have shared with Lolita, always working, and committed to our community. I wish her many more years of happiness and achievements.

Thank you for your commitment and service, Lolita. (Gracias por tu entrega y servicio, Lolita.) We are very fortunate to have you in our lives. (Que afortunados somos de tenerte en nuestras vidas.) Happy birthday. ¡Feliz cumpleaños!

REMEMBERING SERGEANT FIRST CLASS JEREMIAH JOHNSON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS INDUCTION AS AN HONORARY GREEN BERET

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Sergeant First Class Jeremiah Johnson on the occasion of his induction as an honorary member of the United States Army Special Forces, or "Green Berets."

SFC Johnson was an American hero who laid down his life in the line of duty and saved the lives of his teammates on Wednesday, October 4, 2017 in southwest Niger. Assigned to the 3rd Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg, he personified the values of honor, integrity, personal courage, and selfless service.

SFC Johnson enlisted in the United States Army in October 2007 and served as a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Specialist after undergoing some of the most specialized training in our military. SFC Johnson served our nation with distinction and valor, and his decorations include the Purple Heart, Silver Star and Meritorious Service Medal.

A role model among his peers in the 3rd Special Forces Group, SFC Johnson represents the best our nation has to offer. His work helped secure and protect our homeland for generations to come and today we honor his sacrifice. While our country can never

repay this debt, I will do everything in my power to honor SFC Johnson's life and ensure that his legacy lives on forever.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring the life and legacy of Sergeant First Class Jeremiah Johnson on the occasion of his induction as an honorary Green Beret.

IN HONOR OF LEE KIEFER

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor a special Kentuckian and a member of the 2020 U.S. Olympic Team, Lee Kiefer, from Lexington, Kentucky.

At the age of 5, Ms. Kiefer began the sport of fencing. She participated in World Championships beginning in 2009, earning a team gold medal in 2018, a team silver medal in 2017, a team bronze medal in 2019, and an individual bronze medal in 2011. Ms. Kiefer competed in the Pan-American Games in 2011, earning gold team and individual medals, and in 2015, earning gold individual medal and a silver team medal. Ms. Kiefer was the youngest member of the 2009 U.S. Senior World Foil Team. In 2011, she was the only athlete in the world to have earned individual podium finishes at the senior, junior, and cadet world championships.

Representing the United States of America, Ms. Kiefer competed in the London Olympic Games in 2012, the Rio Olympic Games in 2016, and is currently on the team that will compete in the Tokyo Olympic Games.

Ms. Kiefer is the daughter of Steve and Teresa Kiefer. Her husband is also a member of Team USA, fellow fencer, Gerek Meinhardt. She is a graduate of Paul Laurence Dunbar High School in Lexington, the University of Notre Dame, and is currently a student at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine.

I wish all the best to this accomplished Kentucky athlete as she competes in Tokyo representing the United States. It is my honor to recognize Lee Kiefer before the United States Congress.

HONORING THE CAREER OF NANCY
COWSER

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and celebrate another chapter of the remarkable career of local business leader, community role model, and true friend to my office, Nancy Cowser. A long-established pillar within the social services and economic development sectors in the eastern Connecticut community, Nancy will now take her wisdom and experiences to the world of academia as the chief advancement and alumni relations officer for Mitchell College. I cannot think of a better hire for one of our top local colleges than Nancy, as she truly rep-

resents the best and brightest in business leadership and community partnership in Connecticut.

Having received an undergraduate degree in finance from Boston College and an MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Nancy began her career in the banking industry as a mortgage auditor and excelled with her natural leadership and organizational skills. However, Nancy eventually found herself drawn to social services, which led her to United Community and Family Services (UCFS) in Norwich. As the senior vice president of strategy, Nancy worked tirelessly to ensure that constituents across eastern Connecticut had access to services such as healthcare and mental and substance abuse treatment to ensure each individual could experience a better quality of life.

It was during her tenure with UCFS that my office had the first opportunity to work with Nancy. I believe one of the major highlights from both of our careers is when UCFS finally received designation as a Federally Qualified Health Center in 2015, after attempting to do so for eight long years. This critical designation enabled UCFS to receive significant federal funding and in turn allowed UCFS to enhance their primary care services and offer specialty care services, and Nancy was an essential part of this impactful achievement.

Nancy is someone who knows that true community development happens when partnerships are developed and organizations work together to meet a common goal. In her work, Nancy became known as a master networker and someone who brought everyone to the table regardless of background or politics. Nancy's reputation and skillset brought her enormous respect and admiration from community coalitions and armed her with tools needed to take the helm of the Southeastern Connecticut Enterprise Region (seCTer) in 2016.

Nancy hit the ground running as seCTer's executive director. Due to her years of collaboration with community partners, Nancy knew the lay of the land and quickly got to work solidifying relationships and creating pipelines to bring economic stakeholders together. Bolstered by a series of successes within the seCTer loan program, PTAC, and the CEDS' 2017 recognition by the National Association of Development Organizations as a national best practice model, Nancy aided one of the district's largest employers, General Dynamic Electric Boat, in developing an extensive pipeline of subcontractors to fuel the top submarine production force in our nation. In 2019, with Nancy leading the way, seCTer organized our region's largest business networking event, "Leading the Way", to connect General Dynamic procurement personnel with potential suppliers from across Connecticut and throughout New England. The tremendous success of this event exemplified Nancy's ability to bring a multitude of diverse companies under one roof to create new business opportunities and relationships that continue to flourish to this day.

However, we must not forget, our region's defense industry is only one of many sectors that Nancy took under her tutelage to grow. From breweries to manufacturers, and even local gyms—Nancy was always a phone call away to help guide any business in driving its

potential for growth. It was this niche ability to work with so many diverse companies and understand each of their needs that makes Nancy such a pivotal business leader in our district. With Nancy's departure from seCTer, we see the before and after of her time at the organization, and know that her impact that will continue to propel seCTer forward for years to come.

Madam Speaker, I am truly proud to call Nancy a colleague and most importantly a friend. I have witnessed first-hand her professional growth and her ability to spur significant economic growth within the 2nd district. Now taking her talents to Mitchell College, our paths will continue to cross as we tackle the issues facing the academic sector. One cannot really quantify the influence Nancy has had on our region, from her work at UCFS to seCTer, but I know that she has moved mountains for our communities, and her trajectory of success will only continue upward.

I ask everyone in the Chamber to please rise and applaud Nancy for her outstanding career and thank her for all that she has done to help Connecticut businesses and residents. Nancy is a true pillar of Connecticut. We wish her continued happiness and success.

HONORING CAPITOL POLICE OFFI-
CERS AND FIREFIGHTERS FROM
JANUARY 6

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of our Capitol Police Officers and Firefighters, including the heroes from Arlington County, who defended the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021. The attack on the Capitol was an attempt to overturn an election through violence and fear, and our Capitol Police and Firefighters stood firm to protect our democracy and uphold our Constitution.

These brave men and women risked their lives in their protection of those trapped in the Capitol. We must honor these officers who sustained injuries in the line of duty, including Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick and Washington D.C. Metropolitan Police Department Officer Jeffrey Smith, two of my own constituents who passed away due to injuries from the January 6 attack.

The United States Capitol Police protect the U.S. Capitol every day. They protect our legislators, they protect our staff, and they protect journalists and other visitors. Their presence is imperative to the democracy that the United States takes pride in, and it is only fitting that Congress honor their courage and ideals.

January 6, 2021 will be remembered as one of the darkest days of our democracy, yet that day will also commemorate the heroism and selfless bravery of the Capitol Police, D.C. Firefighters, and other law enforcement officers.

HONORING SERGEANT PETER KOEPP, SERGEANT MARK LAINO, OFFICER CHRISTOPHER WATKINS, AND OFFICER BOBBY MEIS UPON RECEIVING THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF BRAVERY

HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Peter Koepp, Sergeant Mark Laino, Officer Christopher Watkins, and Officer Bobby Meis of the Virginia Beach Police Department upon receiving the Congressional Medal of Bravery for their heroic actions on May 31, 2019.

Like many in our community and around the nation, I was shocked and horrified to hear about the active shooter situation in Virginia Beach's municipal building that day. The four officers arrived separately at the hectic scene before converging toward the sound of gunfire. Together, they approached the assailant and bravely exchanged gunfire, during which Sergeant Koepp was struck by a bullet, receiving blunt trauma to his abdomen. The officers' positioning allowed city employees and citizens to evacuate the premises until SWAT officers arrived. Sadly, 12 individuals in the building lost their lives that day. Still, the heroism that Officers Koepp, Laino, Watkins, and Meis exhibited may have saved countless more.

Knowing that they would enter a high-risk situation, each of these officers swiftly responded to the call to action. Our community is eternally grateful for their courage, and it is my privilege to celebrate these heroes as they receive this well-deserved honor.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR HOWARD H. MILES

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a longstanding stalwart from Fort Worth, Texas, Howard Henry Miles. It's his birthday today, and I'd like to share how Howard's contributions to our community have helped shape us for the better.

Howard Henry Miles committed much of his life to his family and his community, when the family of seven were forced to relocate to the city after an unfortunate event by an angry White mob. The family went on to become influential pillars in the African-American community as they opened various businesses in which Howard took ample pride.

Howard is a graduate of the historic I.M. Terrell High School. As a student, Howard ran track, and played the clarinet in multiple bands at the school before graduating in 1951. Howard then earned a science degree in chemistry in 1958 from Wiley College in Marshall, Texas, where he was also a cherished member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Amidst his educational journey, Howard served as a supply clerk for the U.S. Army in the United Kingdom from 1954 to 1956 due to the Korean War.

Howard Henry Miles returned to his high school, I.M. Terrell, as a Science teacher and beloved coach while he simultaneously earned a master of science degree in biochemistry from Syracuse University. Howard continued his teaching and coaching career at Amon Carter-Riverside High School in 1970 and Polytechnic High School in 1975 where he spent more than 20 years doing what he loved most: teaching AP science courses and coaching sports teams. He is respectfully remembered and admired by many students as "Coach Miles," one who helped break down racial barriers for them between the 60's and 70's.

Howard is also recognized for his tough love teaching style and "painstaking drills" which resulted in his girls track team winning two state championships for which he was recognized by the Texas State House representatives. Howard was given many opportunities to move up in his career, however his heart belonged to the city of Fort Worth where he retired in 1999.

Howard's long and varied service to Fort Worth also includes playing in the Fort Worth Civic Orchestra and Arlington Band, religiously attending St. Andrews United Methodist Church serving as a youth leader, Sunday school teacher, male chorus member and youth choir director. Therefore, I am honored to have had Howard Henry Miles as my constituent in Texas' 33rd District.

IN RECOGNITION OF FRED ROGERS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary life of Fred Rogers, the outgoing commander of American Legion Peter J. Courcy Post 178 in Frisco, Texas. Mr. Rogers has conducted his life with distinguished service to his community and nation through his service in the U.S. Armed Forces and his subsequent volunteer efforts.

Mr. Rogers served honorably as an Air Policeman in the U.S. Air Force from 1960 to 1964. After retiring from his decades-long civilian career as a pilot, Mr. Rogers joined the American Legion in 2008. Mr. Rogers' leadership roles at Holley-Riddle Post 21—Frisco and Bill Bryan Post 110—McKinney led to him receiving Pioneer Awards for the organization of those two posts. In 2013, he was named the Texas 4th District Adjutant.

Being a founding post member, Mr. Rogers has served as Post 178's commander since its inception in December 2013. His tireless efforts to bolster the new post's community involvement and promote its membership led to Post 178 earning the Texas Post Excellence Award from 2015 through 2019. Only three posts in Texas receive this honor yearly, and Mr. Rogers' dedicated leadership as commander merited the award for four consecutive years. From 2016 to 2018, Post 178 was also awarded the National Post Excellence award. Despite the post's recent founding, it is one of the most recognized and fastest growing in the state of Texas.

During his time as Post 178 Commander, Mr. Rogers has organized Memorial Day events, sponsored dozens of high school jun-

iors for American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State, promoted the annual American Legion High School Oratorical contest, and worked alongside the Wreaths Across America organization at the Dallas-Fort Worth national cemetery. Mr. Rogers served as the Texas State Vice Commander in 2014 through 2015. In 2019, he received a third Pioneer Award for the organization of Post 268—Sanger.

I join Post 178 and the Frisco community in thanking Mr. Rogers for his devoted service to our veterans and his fellow citizens. He is truly an outstanding model of selfless civic service.

IN HONOR OF GEREK MEINHARDT

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor a special Kentuckian and a member of the 2020 U.S. Olympic Team, Gerek Meinhardt, from Lexington, Kentucky.

Mr. Meinhardt began the sport of fencing when he was 9 years old. In 2007, he qualified for the cadet, junior, and senior world teams all in the same year, becoming the first U.S. men's fencer ever to do so. In 2008, he was the youngest athlete ever to compete on a U.S. Fencing Team and was the youngest member of the 2008 Olympic Team in any sport. Mr. Meinhardt was a four-time NCAA All-American and was a two-time individual NCAA Champion in 2011 and 2014. Mr. Meinhardt was a member of the first U.S. Men's Foil Team to win a Senior World Championship title in 2019. He competed in the Pan-American Games in 2011, earning a gold team medal, and in 2015, earning another gold team medal and silver individual medal.

Representing the United States of America, Mr. Meinhardt competed in the Beijing Olympic Games in 2008, the London Olympic Games in 2012, the Rio Olympic Games in 2016, and is currently on the team that will compete in the Tokyo Olympic Games. He earned a bronze medal in 2016.

Mr. Meinhardt is the son of Kurt and Jane Meinhardt. His wife is also a member of Team USA, fellow fencer Lee Kiefer. He is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and is currently a student at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine.

I wish all the best to this accomplished Kentucky athlete as he competes in Tokyo representing the United States. It is my honor to recognize Gerek Meinhardt before the United States Congress.

THANKING THE OFFICE OF EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE TEAM FOR THEIR DEDICATED SERVICE FOLLOWING THE JANUARY 6, 2021 CAPITOL ATTACK

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and thank the immediate and extended staff of the Office of Employee Assistance (OEA) at the United States

House of Representatives for their tireless service to the House, the United States Capitol Police, and Congressional Budget Office following the violent attack on our Capitol on January 6, 2021.

Through exemplary dedication, passion, and commitment to their profession, the team has developed the OEA into a preeminent employee assistance program over three decades, delivering comprehensive confidential services covering an array of personal and work-related issues to positively impact employee performance, productivity, and well-being.

The team's commitment and care has offered comfort and coping tools to those experiencing profound grief and distress after the January 6, 2021 attack on the Capitol. These services included one-to-one crisis consultation, confidential counseling, debriefings on trauma and resilience, discussion group facilitation, and the development and dissemination of self-help material containing practical strategies to promote recovery.

Additionally, the OEA promptly secured and coordinated additional counseling assets for their appointment-based services as well as for the ongoing, around-the-clock crisis support efforts that would remain available to Capitol Police personnel in the weeks and months that followed.

Through in-person, telephonic, and video meetings and seminars, the OEA interacted with thousands of employees and family members in the first half of 2021 alone, far surpassing past utilization trends. Employee engagement in all their services has been unprecedented—as have been the needs—yet the staff of the OEA has never flinched.

The dedicated team provided impactful work not only through an extraordinary volume of interactions with individuals, but through regular training and briefing facilitation across the House, on-call responses after-hours, and ongoing efforts to promote the services throughout the House and the Capitol Police communities. All the while, the team maintained the resolve and perspective to effectively help others while processing their own attack-and-pandemic-related concerns as employees of this institution.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to acknowledge the entire Office of Employee Assistance

and Well-Being teams who served throughout this tremendous support effort: Tiara Anderson, Breanna Becker, Briana Cragwell, Georgeanna Goldstein, Margot Hawkins-Green, Rhonda Kaalund, Malia Klee, Liz McBride, Jon Murphy, Emily Swartz, Paul Tewksbury, and Brian Weiss. Also worthy of our thanks are the contracted counseling partners. These special groups of professionals should all be commended for their commitment, dedication, and professionalism during a time of great need.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to recognize and thank the Office of Employee Assistance for their extraordinary and unwavering service to this institution.

INTRODUCTIONS OF THE GRANT RESIDENCY FOR ADDITIONAL DOCTORS ACT OF 2021

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of the Grant Residency for Additional Doctors, or GRAD, Act of 2021 which would address the lengthy processing delays for J-1 visas, which is the temporary nonimmigrant visa that international medical students and physicians use to work in U.S. based residency programs.

The United States is anticipated to face a shortage of physicians that ranges from between 54,100 and 139,000 in the next 12 years. The COVID-19 pandemic is expected to magnify these shortages as primary care physicians and specialists experience burnout related to the pandemic. Foreign medical students frequently fill critical positions in hospitals that service underserved and rural communities.

Madam Speaker, my GRAD Act of 2021 would direct the Department of State to establish a position from March through June, the busiest months for school applications, whose sole purpose is to address J-1 visa applications with the intention of receiving graduate medical education or training.

Madam Speaker, the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted how crucial it is that our med-

ical infrastructure has the personnel necessary to handle a public health crisis. Our healthcare system cannot operate if it is facing a physician shortage.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MCCOMB PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today and ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the One Hundredth Anniversary of the McComb Public Library. The McComb Public Library is a staple in the local community where people of all ages are able to gather to read and learn about an array of topics.

The library has a deep-rooted history of serving the people of McComb and the surrounding area, and this anniversary highlights its commitment to the area. Its continued dedication speaks volumes about the library's value to the community and is evidence of an unwavering devotion to public service amongst its staff, past and present.

A century ago, Reverend W.D. Trumbull, the Church of Christ pastor in McComb, decided that it was time for the community to have a library. With the help from Mrs. C.V. Griswolf, Mrs. Joe Wasson, and Mrs. Sam Light, the McComb Public Library was created. Throughout its history, the library has changed locations, grown, and continued to be a beacon of education for McComb and Hancock County. The generosity of community members like Mrs. Blanche Fletcher, who left her entire estate to help construct the current building, and Jane Rader, who was library director for forty-four years, has continued to help the library become what it is today.

Congratulations to the McComb Public Library on its One Hundredth Anniversary. The people of the Fifth Congressional District of Ohio are grateful for the contributions of the library and its staff to the community and wish them all the best in the future.