

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SHARON HENSON

#### HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions to Rockwall County by Mrs. Sharon Sparkman Henson. Mrs. Henson currently serves as the County Chair of the Rockwall County Republican Party and the Vice President of Legislature for the Rockwall County Republican Women's (RCRW) club.

Mrs. Henson was born in Longview, Texas. She attended the University of North Texas where she earned a bachelor's degree in journalism and public relations. Shortly after graduation, Mrs. Henson began her career as a Marketing Manager for the John Deere company in Louisiana before moving back to the Lone Star State to serve as the Public Information officer for the City of Farmers Branch, Texas. While working on the marketing team at a medical sales company, she met and married the love of her life, Richard. Together, they have been happily married for over 27 years and raised 2 sons, Jace and Joshua.

During college, Mrs. Henson phone banked for the Ronald Reagan campaign, which sparked her interest in politics. This interest led to her continued involvement in grassroots political campaigns. She would go on to serve as the Publicity Chair for the Rockwall County GOP before becoming County Chair in 2021. Furthermore, Mrs. Henson is a devoted woman of faith, and regularly attends Lakeshore Church with her family. She credits her strong faith to her ultimate triumph over breast cancer, in which she is almost 8 years cancer-free. Without question, her resilience and tireless efforts have greatly strengthened the conservative movement and the Republican Party of Texas. For her prominent work, Mrs. Henson has been recognized as the RCRW Woman of Influence.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our nation's Capitol to recognize Mrs. Henson's lifetime of service to the good people of North Texas. May God bless her.

### HONORING DEBORAH DORSETT

#### HON. FEDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Deborah Dorsett, an outstanding civic leader serving all of Greater Miami.

Ms. Dorsett received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management from Florida Memorial University and earned a Master of Business Administration from St. Thomas University.

Deborah Dorsett is the Executive Director of the Greater Miami Service Corps (GMSC). She has served the GMSC in several capacities for more than 25 years and has led the program with strength and compassion. She has guided GMSC in creating vital career pathways for young adults and continues to develop meaningful partnerships with the city, local employers, and other supporters. Recognized as a mentor and a champion for today's young adults, Deborah is an advocate for resources needed to support those who face barriers during their career and education journey.

Ms. Dorsett has served in numerous leadership positions, including the former Chair of the Corps Network Board of Directors, and she currently serves as a member. She is the Assistant Treasurer of the Women Involved in Service to Humanity (WISH) Foundation; Vice Chairman of NieCat Foundation of Excellence Inc.; Vice President of the Florida Youthbuild USA Coalition; and Chair of the Risk Management Committee of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated Gamma Zeta Omega Chapter. In 2019, Legacy Miami Magazine named her as one of the year's top 50 influential Black business leaders and public officials.

Ms. Dorsett is the recipient of The Corps Network 2023 Legacy Achievement Award. This distinction is among the highest honors The Corps Network bestows and is awarded to those who have worked for at least 15 years in the Corps world, served in a senior leadership position at a Corps, and made significant contributions to the national movement.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Ms. Dorsett for all she has achieved. She exemplifies the high quality of volunteerism and civic leadership that we aspire to instill across the country.

### RECOGNIZING JAMES KINARD'S SERVICE TO THE CITY OF MELVINDALE AND THE NATION

#### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of James Kinard, the former Mayor of Melvindale, Michigan, and grieve his passing. His dedication to his community and family is worthy of remembrance and commendation.

Jim was born in 1949 in Highland Park, Michigan, to William and Clara Kinard. After graduating from Melvindale High School in 1967, he answered the call and enlisted in the U.S. Navy, where he served valiantly until 1972.

After leaving the Navy, Jim dedicated the next four decades of his life to his father's business, Bill's Cutter Grinding. Outside of his commitment to the family business, Jim proudly served the city of Melvindale in many posi-

tions. Through the 1970s and 1980s, he was the Recreation Commissioner, working to enhance the outdoor experiences and quality of life of Melvindale's residents. That dedication to community was rewarded by being elected Mayor Pro-Tem and eventually Mayor of Melvindale from 1995 to 2003. Recognized as an exceptional leader, Jim was appointed as the chairman of the Downriver Community Council, where he fostered collaboration between the Downriver cities and worked hard to address the challenges that faced the region.

In addition to his decades of public service, Jim will be remembered for the impact he had on the lives of Melvindale's youth. For 12 years, Jim served as the Melvindale Little League Baseball Coach, imparting upon his players the importance of teamwork, sportsmanship, and resilience. He also served on the board of the Melvindale Athletic Booster Association, ensuring support for young athletes no matter what field, court, or track they competed on. Jim was also an advisor for the youth group at Melvindale Methodist Church, where he shaped the futures of many young people looking for guidance.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the life and service of James Kinard. A leader of his community and mentor to many, his leadership will be greatly missed but not forgotten. His memory lives on in his wife, Mary, 2 children, and 6 grandchildren. We offer them prayers of solace in this difficult time, and thank them for sharing their husband, father, and grandfather with us. He made our corner of Michigan a better and more welcoming place for all.

### HONORING SERGEANT PAUL R. DAW

#### HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Sergeant Paul R. Daw, a Vietnam War veteran and upstanding constituent of New York's 21st District.

Paul was raised in Long Island, New York. After graduating high school, he joined the United States Army, serving for 2 years in the Vietnam War from July 1969 to May 1971. Sergeant Daw was stationed in Vietnam as an Eleven-Bravo infantryman alongside his fellow men with the 1st Cavalry Division, Ranger Company A.

For his service, Sergeant Daw was highly decorated. Upon his honorable discharge in 1971, Sergeant Daw earned a Bronze Star with oak leaf clusters, a Purple Heart with an oak leaf cluster, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Army Accommodation Medal for Valor, and the Good Conduct Medal.

After returning home to Long Island from Vietnam, Sergeant Daw joined the New York Police Department, where he served for 21½

• 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.

years as an officer of the law. Off the force, Sergeant Daw also supported his community as a volunteer firefighter until his retirement from the NYPD in 2003, at which time he moved upstate to the North Country.

In his retirement, Sergeant Daw has taken time to focus on his family life. He and his wife Jean have been happily married for 16 years, in the company of his children Jason and Kelly and stepdaughter Katie.

Sergeant Paul R. Daw's life of service and bravery is truly admirable. On behalf of New York's 21st District, it is my honor to recognize the remarkable life of Sergeant Paul R. Daw.

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HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF  
SAINT ANNE CHURCH

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**HON. J. LUIS CORREA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of Saint Anne Church.

In 1923, Father Verhalen announced that a location had been chosen for the new church's construction in the City of Santa Ana. The site featured 3 lots in a new tract named Wilshire Square, that faced South Main Street and another 3 lots that faced Sycamore Street.

On April 22, 1923, the first Mass of the new parish was celebrated at 9:00 a.m. on April 22, 1923, in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Longmire.

In 1939, Reverend Christopher J. Bradley was appointed as the parish's pastor, marking a time when St. Anne Parish began to flourish. Father Bradley started making changes to the parish facilities soon after he arrived, and on November 30, 1941, a solemn Mass was conducted in the stunning new church with 400 seats, 32 stained glass windows, and a beautiful bell tower.

In September of 1945, it was through Father Bradely that the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary were invited to Santa Ana, California to assist parents in the task of educating their children, which resulted in the parish's new grammar school opening its doors to students for the first time.

In May 1949, a new \$80,000 convent was completed at the corner of Sycamore Street and Borchard Avenue. The convent includes a chapel which is a miniature of the church and contains 14 stained glass windows.

In 1950, the church was lengthened, and the church capacity was doubled. The church was enlarged again in 1962. New marble altars were installed, a mortuary chapel was provided in a nave alcove, and a new tabernacle and pipe organ were added. The total seating capacity was increased to 1,000 people.

Today, 100 years later, Saint Anne Church has over 6,000 registered families and has helped the community through many food and toy drives.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the exceptional achievements of Saint Anne Church.

HONORING MICHELE GRUPE

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Michele Grupe, for her dedicated service at the Cope Family Center. She served as the executive director since 2017 and as part of the leadership of the organization since 2004.

Ms. Grupe received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Maryland and is a certified fund-raising executive. Inspired to give children their best possible start in life, Ms. Grupe served as a leader and fundamental member of the organization Cope, where she has worked to empower parents, nurture children, and strengthen communities.

Cope Family Center is a Napa Valley nonprofit dedicated to preventing child abuse and support families by providing parents with the education and resources they need to raise thriving children. Throughout her time at Cope, Ms. Grupe has built coalitions between social service agencies, nonprofit organizations, and community members. Her work has created systemic change and a more resilient community for Napa Valley's children and families.

Ms. Grupe's commitment to service and her strong work ethic goes beyond her time at Cope. Her efforts to strengthen Napa County families and build a more equitable family-support system requires hard work in the face of adversity. She has served as the co-chair for the Child Abuse Prevention Council of Napa County, commissioner of the First 5 Napa County Commission, chair of the Greater Bay Area Child Abuse Prevention Council, Steering Committee Member for the Community Leaders Coalition, and member of the California Family Resource Center Policy Committee. She has also demonstrated her commitment to social justice by volunteering for campaigns and initiatives.

Ms. Grupe has been a force for good in our community. Her commitment to the well-being of her staff, her collaborative partners, and our community has been unflinching.

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COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF  
ROBERT GARZA

**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life and service of Mr. Robert "Bob" Garza of Plano, Texas, who passed away on April 10, 2023.

Mr. Garza was born on July 5, 1940, in San Marcos, Texas, to Antonio and Hortencia Garza. After graduating from high school, he briefly attended Southwest Texas State University before joining the United States Marine Corps. During his time in the Marines, Mr. Garza trained as an electrician and served overseas in Japan. He was an expert marksman and was honorably discharged as a Lance Corporal. Mr. Garza later returned to the U.S. and completed his degree in Mathematics.

Mr. Garza later worked as a teacher and a computer programmer for the United Services

Automobile Association. He eventually settled in Plano, Texas, where he served as the Vice President and Database Administrator for Bank of America. He married his wife Sherri, and together, they have 5 children and many more grandchildren. Mr. Garza retired in 2012 after 33 years working with the bank.

Those who knew Mr. Garza can tell you that he truly enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, who loved him dearly. He was very passionate about sports, traveling, music, and restoring classic cars. Moreover, Mr. Garza was a devoted man of faith and frequently attended the Memorial Presbyterian Church.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capital to recognize Mr. Garza's life and service to our Nation. He will be dearly missed by his friends, family, and all who knew him.

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HONORING JANICE SPANN-GIVENS

**HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Janice Spann-Givens, an outstanding leader in higher education as she retires with 34 years of service to Florida International University (FIU).

Janice Spann-Givens better known to most students as "Mama G" is a native of Miami. She received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing from the University of Florida (UF) in Gainesville, Florida. She was a member of the first cohort of students in FIU's Master of Science in Education Leadership/Student Affairs Administration program and received her degree in 2005. Upon graduation from UF, she worked for Southern Bell/AT&T Information Systems for nine years before beginning her career at FIU in 1989 in the Office of Financial Aid as the Assistant Director for Scholarships. In 1994, she accepted the Assistant Director position in the Office of Multicultural Programs and Services (MPAS). In 2005, Janice was promoted to Associate Director. In 2021, the Office of Multicultural Programs and Services was renamed the Office of Social Justice and Inclusion (OSJI). She worked part time as an Adjunct Lecturer in the FIU College of Arts and Sciences teaching the Freshmen First Year course for 14 years (1995 through 2009).

She has served on many university-wide committees including the MLK Commemorative Celebration, DEI—Attraction, Retention, Engagement subcommittee, Diversity Week, University Wide Access and Success, Student Conduct & Conflict resolution, Judicial, University Scholarship and Holiday Celebration for Children committees.

Ms. Spann-Givens served as Faculty Advisor for several FIU student clubs and organizations during her 34 years including SPEAK, Black Student Union Council (BSU), Black Female Development Circle, National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC), Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated-Sigma Pi Chapter and NAACP to name a few. As a faculty member, she received the 2021 Fraternity and Sorority Life Advisor of the Year award. She is also a member of the 2005 1st Place winning team

for the Fourth Annual StudentAffairs.com Virtual Case Study Competition.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Ms. Janice Spann-Givens for all she has achieved. She embodies the high quality of volunteerism and leadership that is important to the success of collegiate students.

RECOGNIZING CAROLYN  
BLOODWORTH'S SERVICE TO THE  
STATE OF MICHIGAN

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carolyn Bloodworth, the Executive Director of Corporate Giving at Consumers Energy and the Secretary-Treasurer of the Consumers Energy Foundation and the CMS Energy Foundation in Jackson, Michigan on the occasion of her retirement. Her decades of service to the residents of the state of Michigan is worthy of commendation.

Carolyn began her career with Consumers Energy as a part-time junior office clerk in 1981. After finishing her bachelors degree, Carolyn's many skills had her working in Graphic Operations, Customer Service, and Communications. In 1993, Carolyn took over as Executive Director of Corporate Giving as well as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Consumers Energy Foundation and CMS Energy Foundation.

The Consumers Energy Foundation and the CMS Energy Foundation have had a significant philanthropic impact under Carolyn's leadership. Since she took the helm, the Foundations have given over \$90 million in grants. She has served on a number of local and statewide nonprofit boards throughout her career, including the Michigan Community Service Commission, Food Bank Council of Michigan, Michigan FFA Foundation and the Council of Michigan Foundations. Her awards include America's Service Commission's Outstanding Commissioner Award and March of Dimes Volunteer of the Year, among many others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the career of Carolyn Bloodworth. For 42 years she has been serving the people of Michigan in some form, but for the last 30 years she has had a direct hand in steering funds to the most underserved in our communities. We thank her for her service, and wish her a long and relaxing retirement.

HONORING NATIONAL AEROSPACE  
WEEK

**HON. RON ESTES**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, the United States has long been a global pioneer in aviation, defense and space, and the aerospace industry and workforce have made innumerable contributions to our country and the world.

I proudly represent Wichita, Kansas—the Air Capital of the World. For more than a century,

Wichita has been a leader in aerospace innovation and manufacturing. In 1928, just 25 years after the Wright Brothers' first flight, Wichita was already home to 16 airplane manufacturers, 6 engine factories and numerous suppliers.

Today, Wichita is home to world-class research, engineering, manufacturing, and maintenance capabilities.

But aerospace is not just in Kansas—the industry supports jobs in all 50 states. Across the country, aerospace—and the people who power it—provides a critical foundation that supports our Nation's economy and national security.

That's why I relaunched the House Aerospace Caucus this year. With my co-chair Rep. SALUD CARBAJAL, we're committed to maintaining America's global leadership in aerospace by supporting the industry and working to address the legislative issues impacting it.

This National Aerospace Week, I want to recognize and celebrate the American aviation, defense and space industries and thank the hardworking men and women powering this industry.

HONORING AND REMEMBERING  
THE LIFE OF MR. ROBERT JUSTICE

**HON. RALPH NORMAN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable individual, Robert Justice, whose lifetime of service and leadership left an indelible mark on our community and Nation. Mr. Justice devoted 43 years to the Boy Scouts of America, serving as Council Scout Executive and CEO for 21 years. His leadership led to the construction of a new Council Service Center and the Camp Bob Hardin Boy Scout Camp, at which he fostered strong community relationships, and promoted desegregation within Scouting units.

Earlier in his life, Mr. Justice served as the Director of Training at the National Executive Institute of the Boy Scouts of America, certifying thousands of professional candidates. In the Chief Cornstalk Council in Logan, West Virginia, Mr. Justice served as a District Executive and Field Director, ensuring Scouting programs thrived in an impoverished mining community.

In 1943, Mr. Justice enlisted in the United States Navy, serving in World War II. While in service, he continued to work with Scouts on military bases until he returned home in 1946.

As a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Mr. Justice was recognized for his outstanding service and dedication to local food pantries. Additionally, he chaired the Eagle Scout scholarship committee, benefiting aspiring scholars. Mr. Justice's exceptional commitment to service included a membership in Rotary, where he was recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow.

Mr. Justice was also an active Mason and Shriner, contributing to charitable endeavors and fundraising for the Children's Hospital. Additionally, he served as the President of Parents without Partners in Spartanburg, growing it to the largest chapter in South Carolina.

Mr. Justice's service extended to Southside Baptist Church in Spartanburg, where he was a dedicated member since 1974, contributing his leadership and teaching Sunday School. In honoring the life and service of Mr. Robert Justice, we celebrate a life defined by selflessness, leadership, and a profound impact on his community and country.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL  
AEROSPACE WEEK

**HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Aerospace Week. I am proud to Co-Chair the House Aerospace Caucus and to represent the robust aerospace industry on California's Central Coast, which ranges from civilian and military to airplanes and space launches.

The American aerospace industry has moved, connected, secured, and inspired the modern world with countless technologies that play a role in our daily lives. The aerospace industry has grown tremendously over the last 120 years going from the Wright brothers' first flight to deep space exploration.

Whether you are traveling by plane or using GPS to navigate—we all rely on the aerospace industry daily. Achievements in aerospace are some of humankind's most notable, including the moon landing and the first transatlantic flight. Success stories like these inspire the next generation who will continue to innovate and propel the American aerospace industry forward.

The United States has been a leader in aerospace since the beginning of the industry and this is only possible because of the American people's public investment and willingness to participate in this critical workforce. From air traffic controllers, airline gate agents, and pilots to engineers, technicians, and everyone else in between—this diverse workforce allows the United States to maintain leadership.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH  
BIRTHDAY OF ROYCE TASKER

**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th birthday of Mr. Royce Tasker of Sherman, Texas. Mr. Tasker faithfully served the United States Army Air Corps in the Second World War and turned 100 years old on August 8, 2023.

Royce Tasker was born on August 8, 1923, in Abilene, Texas. At the age of 18, he enlisted in the Army in the hopes of pursuing an aviation path. His hard work paid off, as he passed his aviation cadet exam and obtained the rank of First Lieutenant. Mr. Tasker later attended advanced flight school in San Antonio, Texas, and was assigned as a bomber pilot to perform combat duty in the Pacific Theater.

He was given orders to attack Clark Field, an American air base in the Philippines captured by enemy forces during the early stages

of the Pacific war. During his mission, 1 of his B-24 Liberator's engines was struck by enemy fire, forcing Mr. Tasker and his crew to crash land in a rice paddy. Tragically, 1 of his gunners was killed, and several more crew members were severely burned. Thankfully, a group of Filipino civilians rescued them and provided shelter and aid long enough for the United States Navy to send a boat to pick them up. For his injuries sustained in combat, First Lt. Tasker received the Purple Heart.

In recognition of his remarkable achievements, the city of Sherman has named Royce Tasker as a Texoma Hero and proclaimed July 28, 2023, as 1st Lieutenant Royce Tasker Day. I am proud to recognize Mr. Tasker's honor, courage, and steadfast patriotism here today, and I wish him good health for many more years to come.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capital to recognize Mr. Tasker's amazing life and service to our Nation. May God bless Mr. Tasker on 100 years of life and joy.

HONORING REVEREND DR. CARL  
JOHNSON

**HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Dr. Carl Johnson, an outstanding spiritual leader guiding South Florida.

In 1987, Pastor Johnson began his journey as a clergyman, answering the call and receiving a ministerial license at 93rd Street Community Baptist Church. He was appointed the position of youth minister and he quickly ascended to assistant to the Senior Pastor. After the passing of Rev. Alonzo Anderson, Pastor Johnson became the interim Pastor, and was shortly installed as Senior Pastor on May 16, 1993. God gave him a vision for the 93rd St. Baptist Church, "the church being faithful to become fruitful", undergirded with the mission statement, "the Church Where the Holy Spirit Leads and the Body of Christ Follows".

Under Pastor Johnson's leadership, the church has steadily grown from 100 to 7000 members. The old sanctuary was renovated in 1996, and the church expanded into numerous properties in the surrounding area. In December 2007, the church moved adjacent to a beautiful new cathedral holstering their capacity to over 1,500 parishioners and adding administrative offices, bookstore, conference room, and a chapel. Due to the rapid growth many more ministries have been added.

Pastor Johnson has served in many capacities. He serves as the President of the 93rd St. Community Development (social services) since 1999. He served as the President of the Caretaker for Christ Incorporation and served as the President of the Ministers & Deacons Union of the Seaboard Baptist Association. In 2018, he was appointed the President of the Moderators Axillary of the Florida General Baptist Convention. Presently, he serves as the Moderator of the Seaboard Baptist Association for the past 7 years. Today, he serves as a Chaplain for the Florida Highway Patrol Department and Chaplain for the Doral Police Department.

On April 6, 2023, he was elected, as the 24th President of the Florida General Baptist Convention. Beyond his endless love of community, his willingness to serve knows no bounds, and it is recognized by his peers and members of the community. On Tuesday, May 2, 2023, Pastor Johnson was installed as the 24th President of the Florida General Baptist Convention.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Reverend Dr. Carl Johnson for his dedicated service to the South Florida community and all he has achieved.

HONORING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL MUSEUM OF WASHTENAW COUNTY

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the African American Cultural and Historical Museum of Washtenaw County (AACHM) on the occasion of their 30th anniversary. The job they have done in preserving the deep history of Washtenaw County's African American population is worthy of commendation.

Founded in 1993, the AACHM has been crucial in helping local residents understand their shared history, from the many Underground Railroad stops in the area to the Broadway Historic District in Ann Arbor. Originally a "museum without walls", the museum currently resides in their Historic Albert Polhemus House, built in 1848 to house Albert and Leah Polhemus and their 6 children. A later resident by the name of Joseph Mills Maltby was the pastor of Ann Arbor's First Presbyterian Church from 1888 to 1909, at which the Michigan Anti-Slavery Society was founded in 1836.

The exhibits at the AACHM are in constant rotation, and each and every 1 is worthy of a visit in person. Whether it was an exhibition of the Great Migration of the 20th century or a collection of the origin stories of local black families, the AACHM are consistently collaborating with our local high schools and universities to make sure that residents of all stripes participate in our shared history. The AACHM is also well known for their "Journey to Freedom" tours that showcase the role Washtenaw County played in the Underground Railroad. Michigan was often the last stop on the way to freedom in Canada, and 2 crucial routes went through Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the 30th anniversary of the AACHM. They say that "those who don't learn from history are doomed to repeat it", and for the last 3 decades the AACHM has been working tirelessly to ensure that the residents of Washtenaw County remember their history, both the highlights and the low points. Progress in the present requires an understanding of the past, and the AACHM is vital to that cause. We thank you and are excited to see what history you uncover over the next 30 years.

HONORING GARY SANDY

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues JOHN GARAMENDI and DORIS MATSUI, to honor the life and legacy of Yolo County Supervisor Gary Sandy. Supervisor Sandy grew up in Vacaville, California and lived in Woodland, California for nearly 40 years where he devoted his life to public service.

Supervisor Sandy graduated from Sonoma State University "With Distinction" in 1985 and was later awarded the prestigious Coro Foundation Fellowship in Public Affairs. Supervisor Sandy also received a master's degree in organizational development from the University of San Francisco and completed the University of California, Davis Executive Program.

Supervisor Sandy has been active in our community for decades. He served as a member of the Woodland City Council from 1989 through 1996 and was mayor of the City of Woodland from 1994 through 1996. Between 2010 and 2018, Supervisor Sandy was a trustee for the Yuba Community College District, where he was twice elected president of the board. In 2018, he was elected to the Yolo County Board of Supervisors for District 3; and in 2020, Mr. Sandy served as the chair to the board during the COVID-19 pandemic.

He was a treasured member of our community who advocated for matters of mental health, homelessness, agricultural land preservation, economic development, and education. Supervisor Sandy was a leading voice as the chair to the Yolo County Housing Commission and assisted in the creation of Yolo County's Commission to Address Homelessness supporting countywide policy, strategy, and funding recommendations to address homelessness and housing issues. Mr. Sandy was a leader in promoting practices and technologies that aid in water conservation. He furthered these initiatives as a representative to the Yolo County Water Resources Association and the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency.

Supervisor Sandy's colleagues remembered him as a kind, wise, and personable man. His gift was not in what he had to say, but rather in the way he made you feel. Supervisor Sandy brought a sense of warmth and humor into every conversation he had. We will miss his friendship and unwavering support.

Beyond his work, Supervisor Sandy was deeply devoted to his family. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Mary, his children, Owen, Grayson, and Bayley, his grandchildren, and his sister, Shirley. Supervisor Sandy will be remembered for his love of his family and the people he served.

Mr. Speaker, Gary Sandy was a dedicated public servant and leader in our community.

RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC SERVICE CAREER OF BOB HUNDLEY

**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions to the city of Paris,

Texas by Mr. Bob Hundley. For over 45 years, Mr. Hundley served in the Paris Police Department.

From a young age, Mr. Hundley had his mind set on pursuing a career in law enforcement and positively impacting his community. He first began working for the Tyler Police Department as a patrol officer in January of 1975. Shortly after, he relocated to the Paris Police Department and made it his life's mission to help his community through the best and worst of times. From assisting children in appalling situations to rescuing individuals in natural disasters, Mr. Hundley's commitment to selfless service has remained steadfast throughout the years. He was promoted to the rank of lieutenant in the early 1990s and also served as the emergency management coordinator.

Beginning in 2004, Mr. Hundley served as the assistant police chief and was later promoted to Chief of Police in 2009. For the next 11 years, he led the charge to protect and serve North Texas during which he established a robust training program for future law enforcement officers. Moreover, Mr. Hundley created a Citizen's Police Academy to improve law enforcement outreach efforts to the public. Under his leadership, the Paris Police Department received 2 Recognized Law Enforcement Agency awards. At the time, only 66 out of Texas' 2,800 police departments had received such an award. Many people who know Mr. Hundley would agree that his humble contributions to Paris have been invaluable, and his retirement on July 3, 2023, was well deserved after a lifetime of public service.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capital to recognize Mr. Hundley's lifetime of public service to the good people of North Texas. I wish him good health and the best of luck in his future endeavors.

HONORING DR. LAMONT S.  
SNYDER

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON  
OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Lamont S. Snyder in honor of his retirement from Broward County Public Schools.

Dr. Lamont Snyder, a constituent of District 24, is a noted visionary, a well-respected mentor and father figure and a nationally recognized Music teacher and Band Director at Hallandale High School in Broward County, Florida.

Dr. Snyder's leadership and dedication turned a small fledgling high school band of amateur players into a nationally recognized and talented organization of skilled musicians and performers. The band has competed in and won numerous competitions, marched in the acclaimed Orange Bowl Parade and entertained thousands of people across the country.

Dr. Snyder's devotion and accomplishments earned him the Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation Award in 2004 that was presented to him at New York City's Carnegie Hall. Every year the foundation recognizes the five best band directors in the country.

Dr. Snyder is completing his 21st year as a Broward County Schools Band Director. He has used music to instill in his students self-discipline, self-confidence, self-motivation, drive and determination for excellence in everything they do.

He has built a support system, comprised of parents, students, alumni, and friends that has allowed the band to flourish and remain competitive. More importantly, it serves as a safe and positive avenue for the students, many of whom have gone on to earn music scholarships to schools like Bethune-Cookman University, Florida State University and Florida A&M University.

Dr. Snyder is a native of Miami, Florida and a graduate of Miami Carol City High School. He received a Master's degree in Music from Florida Memorial College.

Dr. Snyder is married to Connie Snyder and is the father of 5 children: Venita, Lakinya, Regina, Celisse and Lamont Jr. He is also a grandfather, son, brother and uncle.

Please join me in honoring Dr. Lamont S. Snyder for his commitment to our children, their education and musical enlightenment and for his commitment to our community.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF AMERICAN LEGION POST 46

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the American Legion Post 46 in Ann Arbor, MI on the 100th anniversary of their founding. The support and care that they have shown to our veterans and our community over the last century is worthy of commendation.

The Erwin Prieskorn American Legion Post 46 was issued its charter in 1923, named in honor of Erwin Prieskorn, an Ann Arbor native who died of his wounds in France during the First World War. Over the next 40 years, membership increased to over 1,000 veterans. Membership has fluctuated over the years, but Post 46 is now 1 of the faster growing American Legion posts in the country by growing over 30 percent in membership in the last year alone.

For the past 100 years, the members of Post 46 have dedicated themselves to their fellow veterans. Members are consistently volunteering at the Ann Arbor VA Hospital; visiting with patients, assisting spouses, and providing transportation for those who are not able to drive. In 2019, Post 46 gathered \$100,000 to donate for the construction of a Fisher House at the Ann Arbor VA. The American Legion Department of Michigan followed suit, urging other legionnaires to also contribute during a yearlong campaign. In total, more than \$500,000 was raised and the VA Ann Arbor Fisher House welcomed its first guests on June 1, 2020.

Over the decades, Post 46 been committed to other community-based programs in the greater Ann Arbor area working on youth education, combating domestic violence and sexual assault, food insecurity, homelessness, and public health. Post 46 regularly donates and raises funds for the following organiza-

tions; SafeHouse Center, Food Gatherers, Hope Clinic, Staples Family Center, Salvation Army, Toys for Tots, Youth Scouting, placing flags at veterans graves every Memorial Day, high school scholarships, Boys State, Veterans Memorial Park, Washtenaw Community College, U of M ROTC, MSP Student Trooper Program and so much more.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Erwin Prieskorn American Legion Post 46. For the last century, their members have continued serving their community well after being out of uniform. We thank them for their service, both at home and abroad, and are excited to see what they can accomplish over the next 100 years.

RECOGNIZING THE FOOD BANK OF CONTRA COSTA AND SOLANO

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano Counties as we commemorate Hunger Action Month.

The Food Bank, a member of Feeding America's national network of food banks, distributes free food each week to the communities of Contra Costa and Solano Counties. Through partnering with 260 local nonprofit organizations, the Food Bank provides more than two million pounds of food each month to support hunger-fighting efforts in our community. Initiatives including its mobile food pharmacy, senior food program, and drive-thru distributions, have helped reducing food insecurity in the Bay Area.

With one in four residents in our community depending on the Food Bank for emergency and supplemental food each month, the Food Bank not only provides over 3,500,000 meals monthly, but it also advocates for a hunger-free future by highlighting the hunger issues our community faces, educating people on the importance of food banks in addressing these challenges, and advocating for policy changes to advance the fight to end hunger. Further, the Food Bank works tirelessly to prevent food waste, saving perfectly edible food from being discarded. The organization partners with over 130 retailers to rescue 6,500,000 lbs. of food each year through its grocery recovery pickups.

As we celebrate Hunger Action Month, I extend my sincere appreciation to the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano Counties for its invaluable service to our community and commitment to fighting food insecurity and improving the lives of Bay Area residents.

CELEBRATING CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT VANESSA JOHNSTON FOR HER SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Chief Master Sergeant Vanessa Johnston for her retirement

from the United States Air Force after 26 years of dedicated service.

Born in Wyoming, Chief Johnston enlisted in the Air Force after graduating from Laurel High School in Montana in 1997. Throughout her service, Chief Johnston demonstrated exceptional leadership, devotion, and work ethic. I can personally attest to this, as I had the privilege of serving as crewmates with Chief Johnston during my time on active duty. Among numerous career accomplishments, Chief Johnston excelled as a ground cryptologic language analyst and flew over 800 hours as an Airborne Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance Operator—all while becoming a mother to 5 amazing children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Chief Master Sergeant Vanessa Johnston for her devoted service to her country. Her selfless commitment and exceptional achievements have not only made our country safer but also should serve as inspiration to all. I join Chief Johnston's family, friends, and colleagues in commemorating her retirement, and I extend to her my best wishes.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF KENNETH WEBB

**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Kenneth Webb of Paris, Texas, for being recognized as a Homegrown Hero by the St. Paul Baptist Church. Mr. Webb has continued to stand out as an exemplary leader for North Texas through his acts of selfless service and generosity.

Mr. Webb graduated from Paris Junior College in 1983, where he received dual honors from Phi Theta Kappa, an international 2-year college honor society. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Business from the University of Louisiana-Lafayette in 1988 and a Master of Science in Higher Education Administration from Texas A&M University-Commerce. After graduation, he returned to Paris Junior College to serve as the Director for Student Services, a position he holds to this day. Under his tenure, thousands of students stepped foot on campus and went on to achieve remarkable academic success and fulfill their potential. In 2018, he was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Texas Hall of Honor for College Administrators and was recognized as a Distinguished College Administrator. I am privileged to commend Mr. Webb today for his unmatched dedication to student success.

A devoted man of faith, Mr. Webb also serves as a deacon at Oak Hill Baptist Church in Arthur City. Furthermore, Mr. Webb serves on the Board of Directors of the Boys and Girls Club, where he was admitted into the Boys and Girls Club Hall of Fame in 2018 for his passion for youth community service. In 2019, he was awarded the Clintgate Friend of the Youth Award, which is bestowed to distinguished individuals who have dedicated numerous community service hours to benefit the children of Lamar County. Without question, Mr. Webb's commitment has had tremendous impact and made a notable difference in the lives of so many individuals. In his free time, he enjoys traveling, barbecuing, baseball, and spending time with his family.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capital to recognize Mr. Webb's lifetime of service to the North Texas community. May God Bless him.

HONORING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS).

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, Miami-Dade County Public Schools has recently reached a historic milestone. The district has risen from fourth to the third largest school district in the nation with a total of 319,612 students. With the enrollment of the 2022–2023 school year, Miami-Dade was able to surpass Chicago Public Schools with nearly 5,000 students.

The students, faculty, and staff of M-DCPS continue to succeed on multiple levels as the district has maintained an A-rating for the past 3 years.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Miami-Dade County Public Schools as the third largest school district in the Nation.

HONORING MISHLER'S DRIVE-IN  
FOR 57 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Mishler's Drive-In for 57 years of excellent service in Evart, Michigan. Since opening in 1966, they have remained both a staple of their community and a must-see destination for travelers. In addition to their renowned root beer, hamburgers, and raspberry truffles, the Mishler family and staff has maintained a glimmering reputation through old-fashioned hospitality and dedication to quality. Mishler's Drive-In has truly become an irreplaceable part of the community and individuals throughout Michigan, including myself, are saddened by their closing after over half a century.

In the early 1990s, Steve Mishler gained ownership from his parents and has since continued to operate the restaurant with an increased focus on customer experience. As a favorite stop for locals and visitors alike, individuals have trekked long distances and endured intense weather conditions for a meal at Mishler's Drive-In. It is easy to see why they have been a landmark of Evart, Michigan for the last 57 years, and I'd like to extend my appreciation to all involved in their success.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Mishler's Drive-In for 57 years of continuous and exemplary operation in Northern Michigan. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I wish the Mishler family, its staff, and the local community the best in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING DOROTHY FORD'S  
SERVICE TO THE CITY OF YPSI-  
LANTI

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Dorothy Ford, a resident of Ypsilanti, Michigan and the Director of Greater Faith Mission and Greater Faith Transition. Her service to the people of her community is worthy of commendation.

Dorothy started dating her husband, Pastor Robert L. Ford, when they were 15 and 16. A few years later, 55 years ago this October, they were married. Together their legacy includes 6 children, 23 grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren. In 1981, Dorothy founded the Greater Faith Mission, a non-profit helping with food insecurity in the region. 42 years later Greater Faith Mission is still going strong, with many partnerships in the region to help get food in the hands of families and seniors that need it the most.

After several years of running the food pantry, Dorothy and Robert had a calling to start a church of their own. They began with eight couples and their children, holding services in the Fords' home. By the end of 1988 the church moved into a small building on Ecorse Road. As the church grew and evolved, so did the charitable programs it offered, although some kind of food ministry was always central to the mission. Dorothy was ordained and became a licensed Minister in 2009. In 2014, they purchased the old Kaiser Elementary school building and moved into their current home.

Today, Greater Faith Transition Center offers Sunday school and a Sunday service, preceded by a free breakfast. A special women's group meets monthly. The church has partnered with Food Gatherers since 1989 and offers a free food distribution event the first and fourth Tuesday of each month, as well as a five-week summer dinner program. The church also utilizes its large, commercial-grade kitchen, built just a few years before the school closed, to prepare a huge, free Thanksgiving dinner for the community every year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating Dorothy Ford for the tremendous contributions she has made to Ypsilanti, Michigan and all of its residents. With her actions, Ypsilanti has become kinder, more welcoming, and more generous to those in need. We thank her for her service and are excited to see how she transforms the city with her future endeavors.

CURRICULUM VITAE FOR RET.  
STAFF SERGEANT RONALD E.  
MYERS

**HON. SCOTT PERRY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I'm honored to recognize Ronald E. Myers, upon the auspicious occasion of his retirement on October 1, 2023.

Staff Sergeant (U.S. Army, Retired) Myers enlisted in the Army on October 31, 1978, after graduating from Lower Dauphin High School. He completed basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and went on to Fort Rucker, Alabama, to become qualified as a helicopter mechanic. SSG Myers specialized in the UH-1/Iroquois ("Huey") aircraft, which remains his favorite, as it was the critical aircraft for Troop and logistics transport, and direct combat gun support capability. Sergeant Myers' performance and duty as a mechanic of these premier and complex aircraft was critical to the Army mission.

After his service in the active component Army, Sergeant Myers also honorably serviced in the Pennsylvania National Guard, where he earned the rank of Staff Sergeant (E-6) upon retirement. On May 1, 1991, he transitioned to the civilian/private sector, wherein he became Director of Maintenance for the Graham Capital Corporation flight department, in which he still serves after 32 years.

Mr. Speaker, I'm privileged to commend Staff Sergeant (U.S. Army, Retired) Ronald E. Myers for his tireless and selfless service to our Country. On behalf of the 10th Congressional District, I wish him Godspeed on his future adventures.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF  
DANIEL INMAN

**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Mr. Daniel Rudolph Inman, a seventh generation Grayson County native, who passed away on August 8, 2023.

Mr. Inman was born on July 17, 1989, in Sherman, Texas, to Timothy Rudolph Inman and Cheryl Dianne Patrick Inman. Mr. Inman graduated from Sherman High School in 2008, where he was a star varsity football player and officer in Future Farmers of America. Livestock and animals were his passion, and his hand-raised heifer won first place at the Houston Livestock Show. He attended East Central University in Ada, Oklahoma, on a full ride football scholarship. Mr. Inman's love for football dates back to his childhood, in which he accompanied his great uncle, Sam Johnson, to football games at Notre Dame. One of his fondest memories was seeing the Notre Dame locker room and touching the "Play Like a Champion Today" sign before walking onto the field.

Mr. Inman later worked for Emerald Custom Pools in Saginaw, Texas, where he quickly rose through the ranks to become a manager. Thanks to his hard work and effort, Emerald Custom Pools was listed as 1 of the Top 50 Builders nationwide. Those who knew Daniel will tell you that he was a kind soul that was loved by everyone, especially his nieces and nephew. Mr. Inman was a devoted man of faith and was always willing to lend a hand to assist those in need. His empathy also extended to local animals and drove him to volunteer at the Friends of Lancaster animal shelter in Fort Worth. Without question, Mr. Inman's friends and family truly cherished each moment with him.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recog-

nize Mr. Inman's vibrant and uplifting life. He will be dearly missed by his friends, family, and all who knew him.

RECOGNIZING THE THREAT TO  
ISRAELI DEMOCRACY

**HON. JENNIFER A. KIGGANS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD remarks submitted at the request of a Virginia Beach constituent, Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman of Temple Lev Tikvah, and are a reflection of his views:

I have returned from the torn Land of Israel where I grew up, following a visit throughout July of a shaking, even shocking experience. Israel is undergoing a trauma whose lasting impact is impossible to predict. However, the current internal crisis threatening Israeli democracy, the Middle East's sole one, is due to the most extreme coalition government in Israel's history attempting to alter its Western liberal orientation by disabling the Supreme Court's standing as an independent Judiciary. Consequently, the unprecedented mass demonstrations for months in opposition to the proposed radical agenda which I watched in disbelief and participated in, have reflected a powerful popular response determined to preserve Israel as both the Jewish and democratic state envisioned by its founders. Already adversely affected are the Israeli economy, military, public health, the woman's status, education, Pride community and society at large, while Israel's enemies, Iran and its proxies, become further emboldened. The special relationship between Israel and the United States is at risk as well as the essential bond between Israel and American Jewry.

With heartfelt, even prophetic pathos and deep grasp of the multi-layered Israeli scene since its inception and prior, veteran Israeli author Ari Shavit offers us a concise manifesto for urgent action with the goal of "Saving Israel," his recent book's alarming title (Saving Israel. Rishon LeZion: Miskal—Yedioth Ahronoth Books and Chemed Books. 2023). He begins with a statement of both profound gratitude and grave concern, "the State of Israel is a miracle. No other nation did what we have: To build anew a national home following two thousand years. No progressive democracy succeeded to flourish as we have, following a Shoah and living under a volcano. Despite all the troubles, problems, weaknesses, difficulties and blemishes—The Zionist dream has been realized. The people of Israel live, and the state of Israel lives. Our sons and daughters have in our ancestral land what our grandfathers and grandmothers did not: Sovereignty, freedom, prosperity, pride and progress. Being a technological, economic, military and political super-power, Israel of the 21st century is a strong country capable of shaping its own fate and march toward a brilliant future. But the deep 2023 crisis threatens the Israeli miracle and erasing our astonishing successes, leaving us homeless."

Shavit does not mince words. On the one hand, heaps praise upon Israel's successes though Israel is not a global, as the author claims, but a regional superpower. In light of trying beginnings and facing monumental challenges that were likely to doom the fragile creation: Attacks from a collection of superior military establishments while absorbing penniless immigrants from west and east

three times larger in size, into a war zone with meager resources. On the other hand, he bemoans the Jewish people's destructive tendencies that brought down Jewish sovereignty and led into long exile and ultimately a consuming Holocaust. "And the Jewish people has multi-talents though sorrowfully it lacks the talent to be a people. It tends toward extremism, internal strife and self-destruction . . . Israel needs to be both powerful and ethical, both national and liberal, both Jewish and democratic. Only a combination of resoluteness and openness will guarantee that not weakness nor zeal-ousness will bring us again to the pit's cusp."

The author is convinced that the goal is within reach though the hour is late and the Israelis with all their complexities and tribal tendencies ought not further delay. He thus concludes, "The good and silent great Israeli majority will not remain still. The democratic Jews will not let a wondrous national and human enterprise to go down. For all of us have a stake in this special place. And we all know that there wouldn't be a Fourth Commonwealth. The Third Commonwealth is the Jewish people's last opportunity. With determination, love and faith we'll defend Israel and rebuild the house."

Rabbi Israel Zoberman is founder of Temple of Lev Tikvah in Virginia Beach.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MICHAEL  
ELAINE "MIKE" GRIFFIN

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and achievements of Michael Elaine "Mike" Griffin, a lifelong resident of Ripley, Mississippi. Mike passed away on Monday, September 4, 2023, at age 62.

Mike was born July 13, 1961, in Ripley, Mississippi, to the late Sylvesta Elaine and Martha Criswell Griffin. He was a 1979 graduate of Ripley High School and continued his education at Northeast Mississippi Community College, where he worked on a technical degree as an electrician.

Upon deciding to pursue a military career instead, Mike enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1980 and proudly served his country as a Rifleman and Remote Sensor Specialist until 1986. His spirit for adventure and service to his community led to his training and responsibilities as a State Trooper in 1987. On June 2, 1990, Mike married his beloved wife, the former Edna Huddleston of Falkner, Mississippi. On June 30, 2021, after 34 years of proudly and faithfully serving the State of Mississippi, Mike retired and was assigned as a government affairs liaison. Throughout his journey, he always strived to improve himself and contribute positively to his colleagues. His exceptional friendliness and kindness left a lasting impression on all who had the privilege of knowing him.

A member of the Church of Christ, Mike served as an Elder and Deacon for many years and was also an active member of the Lion's Club. He was an Ole Miss and Dallas Cowboy football fan, enjoyed dining out with family and friends, tending to his yard, and adored his wife and daughter. Mike was a man of immense character and kindness, a

pillar of his church and community, and beloved by all who knew him. His last selfless act was a testament to the caring soul he embodied following a life of dedication and service to his family, friends, community, state, and country.

Mike is survived by multiple loved ones, and memories of him will continue to be shared by Edna, his wife of 33 years; his daughter, Olivia Griffin of Oxford, Mississippi; one brother, Ricky Griffin; two half-sisters, Diane Cost (David) and Nina Lowry (Paul); his father-in-law, Wade Huddleston; sisters-in-law, Linda Bond (Kurt), Laura Green (Scott), and Myra Simmons (Stacy); and a host of nieces, nephews, many friends.

RECOGNIZING CARSON DEVAUL,  
EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Carson DeVaul. Carson is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Carson has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Carson has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Carson holds the rank of Warrior in the tribe of Mic-O-Say and is an Ordeal Member in the Order of the Arrow. Carson has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Carson, with the help of many fellow Scouts, organized the construction of 2 foot-bridges across a small ditch for the disc golf course at Bennett Park in the City of Liberty, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Carson DeVaul for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF REVEREND GEORGE FISHER,  
JR.

**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend George Fisher, Jr. of Paris, Texas, for being recognized as a Homegrown Hero by the St. Paul Baptist Church. Reverend Fisher joins a select group of exceptional leaders who have dedicated a lifetime of service to the people of Lamar County.

Reverend Fisher attended Paris Junior College and later received an Associate of Science in Biblical Studies from the Southern Bible Institute & College in Dallas, Texas. After graduation, Reverend Fisher worked for the Kimberly Clark Corporation before being elected to serve on the Paris City Council and

as the Mayor of Paris. During this time, Reverend Fisher served both as the President of the Texas Conference of Black Mayors and as a member of the steering committee for the Boys and Girls Club. In this role, he spearheaded efforts to improve youth outreach and community service initiatives by the city of Paris.

In 2003, Reverend Fisher was elected to the Paris Independent School District board. As the School Board President, he worked diligently to improve parental involvement in the educational process. His longtime investments in Paris ISD schools have helped ensure the future success of thousands of students. Moreover, Reverend Fisher is a steadfast man of faith, and he currently serves as the Senior Pastor of New Mount Olive Baptist Church in Grant, Oklahoma. His tireless efforts to inspire and empower the youth of his community have not gone unnoticed. Reverend Fisher has served as a beacon of support and enriched the lives of so many. I'm pleased to give recognition for his outstanding service to students, parents, and worshippers. In his personal time, he is fond of traveling, volunteering, spending time with his family, and visiting new restaurants.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capital to recognize Reverend Fisher's unparalleled commitment to benefit the people of North Texas. May God Bless him.

RECOGNIZING GENE THERAPY

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the transformative innovation coming out of Ohio—innovation that saves and improves lives. For families in my district, this scientific ingenuity matters. I'm proud of the evolution of biomedical science and its application to drug development.

To ensure this innovation will benefit our citizens, I encourage my colleagues to support a triad of legislative policies that will expedite market entry, identify patients, and remove barriers to patient access. In an era of government price controls, which are undermining previous congressional efforts to promote innovation, such policies are particularly essential to ensuring continued biopharmaceutical industry investment in new technologies to treat rare diseases. We can work to collectively pass legislative items to increase access to treat rare diseases, as well as enact policies that will improve newborn screening, better facilitate genetic testing, and enhance the level of care disease expertise and experience on Food and Drug Administration review teams to allow for more consistent application of benefit-risk, real world evidence, and patient experience data.

I'd like to flag that gene therapy is the next evolution in treatment for rare diseases like hemophilia, sickle cell disease, cystic fibrosis, phenylketonuria, hereditary angioedema, OTC deficiency, severe combined immunodeficiency disease, Pompe disease, and muscular dystrophy. It has the potential to be the first type of therapeutic intervention for hundreds of rare pediatric disorders that lack or

had lacked any treatment option, including AADC deficiency, epidermolysis bullosa, metachromach leukodystrophy, and adrenoleukodystrophy.

The biopharmaceutical industry has invested billions of dollars in gene therapy clinical trials for such conditions at institutions throughout Ohio, including Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Cleveland Clinic, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Akron Children's Hospital, and Dayton Children's Hospital.

Gene therapy is the focus of the nearly \$100 million in grants that the National Institutes of Health has awarded in recent years to researchers throughout Ohio. For example, Dr. Krystof Bankiewicz from Ohio State has received nearly \$15 million for researching a gene therapy to treat AADC deficiency, which is a fatal neurodevelopmental disorder with only 135 identified patients in the world. Due to an enzyme deficiency, "children lack muscle control, and are usually unable to speak, feed themselves or even hold up their head," according to Dr. Bankiewicz. By transferring a functional copy of the AADC gene to allow for endogenous AADC enzyme production, clinical trial data have demonstrated that this gene therapy prevents oculogyric crises, allows the child to develop control, sit up, and walk, and generally improves quality of life.

Our institutions and clinicians in Ohio are truly the leaders among peers in biopharmaceutical innovation for rare disorders. The development and commercialization of safe, effective, and durable gene therapy for these rare disorders is precisely what Congress intended when it enacted the 21st Century Cures Act (including the Regenerative Medicine Advanced Therapy program), the Orphan Drug Act, the Breakthrough Therapy program, and the Rare Pediatric Disease Priority Review Voucher program.

The American people deserve a return on the biopharmaceutical industry investment in bringing gene therapies to patients, as well as the NIH support of basic research and early-stage clinical studies. If patients have an incomplete diagnosis or if diagnosed patients are subject to step therapy or other coverage restrictions or denials, gene therapy will not benefit those who need it.

HONORING METLIFE FOUNDATION  
FOR \$1 BILLION IN ALL-TIME  
GIVING

**HON. BRANDON WILLIAMS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor MetLife Foundation on its landmark achievement of \$1 billion in all-time giving.

MetLife Foundation was established in 1976 as the charitable arm of Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (MetLife), a leading financial services company founded and headquartered in New York for over 155 years. The Foundation is focused on driving economic mobility around the globe and has partnerships with nonprofit organizations globally.

Since its founding, MetLife Foundation has made significant contributions to communities in New York State. MetLife recognizes it has



an important role in communities and is committed to supporting them through the Foundation. Through this commitment and its ongoing work, MetLife Foundation has helped improve the financial health and well-being of New York State residents and provided millions in relief during challenging times, COVID-19, Hurricane Sandy and September 11 among them. MetLife Foundation has also made significant impact investments over its 47-year history to nonprofits of importance to residents of New York State.

On behalf of New York's 22nd Congressional District, I would like to commend and congratulate MetLife Foundation on its landmark achievement of \$1 billion in all-time giving. I applaud the commitment and efforts of the Foundation which has resulted in the achievement of this significant milestone.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON AN OPEN SOCIETY WITH SECURITY ACT OF 2023

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the United States Commission on an Open Society with Security Act of 2023, which would create a commission to investigate how we can maintain our democratic traditions while actively responding to the real and substantial threats posed by foreign and domestic terrorism.

The impetus for this commission was the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995, its importance grew after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, and has reached peak urgency since the insurrectionist attack on the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021. The succession of tragic events endured by our Nation has led to a series of sweeping security increases that are deemed both necessary and temporary in the moment but create lasting security infrastructure that is difficult to dismantle and infringes on our open, democratic society.

We must acknowledge and accept that we have entered an era of constant internal and external threats, requiring ever-higher levels of security for our people and public spaces. What we thought would be a temporary infringement on our open society has turned into a permanent restriction on how our citizens interact with each other and our democratic institutions. Because emergencies typically dictate security decisions, essential discussions on the proper balance between security, individual rights and the freedoms enjoyed in an open society have been repeatedly deferred.

This bill would ensure that these long overdue discussions take place in a public forum with experts drawn from across the spectrum. To date, security planning has been delegated almost exclusively to security, intelligence and military experts. Although their input is indispensable, they cannot be expected to consider matters outside of their expertise. To strike a better balance that gives sufficient importance to our democratic traditions, we need to invite experts from diverse fields to the same table to work together. Therefore, the commission would be composed not only of security, intel-

ligence and military experts, but also experts from such fields as business, architecture, technology, law, city planning, art, engineering, philosophy, history, sociology and psychology.

We have used commissions before to deeply investigate and address unprecedented challenges, such as the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (also known as the 9/11 Commission), the Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the United States Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction (also known as the Silberman Robb Commission) and the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders (also known as the Kerner Commission). The commission created by this bill would seek to avert a crisis in basic freedoms before their infringement becomes entrenched. We cannot allow security protocols to proliferate without informed civilian oversight and a thorough analysis of alternatives that might better safeguard freedom and commerce.

Furthermore, we have had decades to develop security strategies and technologies that do not deprive our citizens of access to institutions and personal liberty. Thus far, we have either relied on imprecise, medieval approaches like crude barriers or on intrusive new technologies that treat privacy like a privilege instead of a right. We can, and must, do better.

As the home of our federal government, the District of Columbia's residents have suffered disproportionate infringement on public spaces, personal rights and freedoms in the name of security. Public spaces that serve as the heart of our local communities have become restricted zones characterized by a heavy security presence, with individuals liable to be reprimanded for walking on the wrong side of the street or marveling too long at the architecture. Barriers such as walls and fences are touted as essential security features while our citizens are left peering at their democracy from a distance.

Security is not only about reducing lives lost and costs. It is also about safeguarding the institutions, freedoms and values that anchor our country, not only for ourselves but for future generations. The social compact between government and the people should not be the result of a series of hostage negotiations. We must resume reasoned and deliberative decision-making, beginning with a high-level commission composed of experts from diverse disciplines charged with developing a new course that will protect both our people and our precious democratic institutions and traditions.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT GENERAL MATTHEW G. GLAVY

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant General Matthew G. Glavy, who serves his country with the pride and honor befitting the highest ranks of the United States Marine Corps.

Born in 1963 at Mercy Hospital in Buffalo, New York, Lieutenant General Matthew Glavy grew up with his 3 siblings under the name "Jerry." Calling Western New York home,

Lieutenant General Glavy finds comfort in Buffalo style wings, the Buffalo Bills, and the cold winter climate of Western New York. As a child, Lieutenant General Matthew Glavy was an avid sports fan, having played youth league football in his childhood, later lettering in cross country and track in high school before graduating in 1981.

Lieutenant General Glavy exemplifies every aspect of courage, determination, and service denominated in the timeless motto of the Marine Corps, "Semper Paratus" having served in all 3 designations: the operating forces, the supporting establishment, and in the headquarters. As a member of the operating forces and supporting establishment, Lieutenant General Glavy served "at the heart of the Marine Corps" in various assignments, including as an aircraft maintenance officer, weapons and tactics officer and embark officer, and current operations officer, eventually climbing the ranks to commanding general and U.S. Marine Corps Forces Cyberspace Command and Space Command. General Glavy also supported his troops, his country, and his family, in the USMC Headquarters, where he served, among many impressive assignments, as platoon commander, White House liaison officer, and presidential command pilot. Lieutenant General Glavy currently serves as the Deputy Commandant for Information and 2nd Commander of the Marine Corps Forces Strategic Command. Lieutenant General Glavy will be returning to the Buffalo area as the keynote speaker at the reunion of the 3rd Battalion, 26th Marines.

Today, I'm asking all present to join me in honoring Lieutenant General Matthew G. Glavy for his lengthy service and dedication to our great Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE INDONESIAN COMMUNITY CONNECT FOR A DECADE OF CELEBRATING INDONESIAN CULTURE

**HON. CHRIS PAPPAS**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Indonesian Community Connect in New Hampshire as they celebrate a decade of promoting Indonesian culture. This also marks the sixth anniversary of ICC's initiatives as a non-profit organization and the second year of the momentum of the Little Indonesia Project. The Little Indonesia Project, the first of its kind in our Nation, embodies art, culture, and opportunity, forging connections between Indonesian culture and New Hampshire, directly contributing to the revitalization of the Downtown Somersworth business district.

ICC, a non-profit organization headquartered in New Hampshire, has dedicated itself to showcasing the rich diversity of Indonesian culture while fostering mutual understanding among various cultures and values. Operating from Somersworth, NH, the ICC team has diligently linked the Indonesian community with the Granite State and its support services. They have gone the extra mile in assisting the Indonesian community with accessing local resources, including healthcare, education, food, festivals, and much more.

This team serves as a bridge that connects Indonesian culture with neighboring communities, offering a wide array of resources. They have established a food pantry to address food insecurity within the Indonesian Community and provide support for career building, particularly for those affected by the pandemic, thereby promoting economic mobility in New Hampshire. Additionally, they offer document translation services to help community members navigate in-person, virtual, and phone interactions, enhancing English language proficiency. The ICC is not only committed to sharing its culture externally but also nurturing cultural enrichment for children and serving as a hub of resources for stakeholders, including the local government and valued collaborators in Indonesia.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District I extend my warmest congratulations and heartfelt thanks to the passionate volunteers at ICC, both in New Hampshire and Indonesia for a decade of work that embodies the spirit of collaboration and teamwork that we deeply value in New Hampshire. I wholeheartedly appreciate the heartfelt work of this team in fostering the rich tapestry of Indonesian culture over the past 10 years. As the representative privileged to serve the home base of the Indonesian Community Connect in Congress, I eagerly anticipate witnessing the continued success of this celebration in the years to come.

FLORIDA'S 16TH CONGRESSIONAL  
DISTRICT FIRE AND RESCUE  
EMS AWARDS

**HON. VERN BUCHANAN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize fire, rescue and EMS personnel who have provided distinguished service to the people of Florida's 16th Congressional District.

First responders, fire departments and emergency medical service teams are summoned on short notice to serve their respective communities. Oftentimes, they arrive at scenes of great adversity and trauma, to which they reliably bring strength and composure. These brave men and women spend hundreds of hours in training so that they are prepared when they get "the call."

Eleven years ago, I established the 16th District Congressional Fire and Rescue and EMS Awards to honor our first responders for outstanding achievement.

On behalf of the people of Florida's 16th District, it is my privilege to congratulate the following winners, who were selected this year by an independent committee comprised of a cross section of current and retired fire and rescue personnel living in the district.

Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award: Charge Paramedic Jacqueline Wright of Manatee County EMS. Lieutenant Derek Foss of Southern Manatee Fire Rescue. Support Specialist Christopher Underwood and Support Specialist Adam Green of Manatee County Search and Rescue.

Dedication & Professionalism Award: Fire Marshall Rodney Kwiatkowski of West Manatee Fire Department. Captain Norman Brown

of the Hillsborough County Fire Department. Assistant Chief Sean Dwyer of Manatee County EMS. Lieutenant Lionel Harrison of the City of Bradenton Fire Department.

Career Service Award: Battalion Chief David Foxall of the City of Bradenton Fire Department. Chaplin James Martin and Fire Commissioner Ed Stevens of the Parrish Fire District.

Preservation of Life Award: Chief Jared Leggett, Deputy Chief John Elwood, Captain Sheena Leggett, Captain Chris Krier, Captain Hollister Robinson, Captain Nicholas Reis, Sergeant Elizabeth Alvarez, Captain Joey Spinks, Corporal Harry White, Rescue Technician Matt Snell, Rescue Technician Nik Martinez, Rescue Technician Elson Parrish, Rescue Technician Terry Olsen, Rescue Technician Rachel Swim, Rescue Technician Joseph Hoffman, Rescue Technician Ben Watts, Rescue Technician Chiara Simeoni, Rescue Technician Evan Gibbs, Rescue Technician Christopher Rodriguez, Rescue Technician A.J. Kwiatkowski, Civilian Pilot Garrett Mitchell, K9 Kaido, K9 Taz, K9 Alpha and K9 Karma of Manatee County Search and Rescue.

Unit Citation Award: District Chief Zach Molnar, Charge Paramedic Brandon Craig, EMT Anthony Tino, Charge Paramedic Jill Kinghorn of Manatee County EMS. Firefighter Aaron Wright, Firefighter/Engineer Brandon Beals of the City of Bradenton Fire Department. Officer Jason Rhind of the Bradenton Police Department. Engineer Daniel Lane, Firefighter Michael Kish, Firefighter Ben Guth, Lieutenant Chad Gamble, Firefighter Jordan Rogers, Firefighter Brian Perdue, Lieutenant Eric Hoying, Firefighter Kyle Powers, Firefighter Bret Kanapux, and Battalion Chief Kyle Taylor of East Manatee Fire Rescue. Medical Director David Nonell, Assistant Chief Sean Dwyer, District Chief Bradley Hughes, Registered Nurse Brie Spuck, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Shannon Shanks, Social Worker Sonia Shuhart, Outreach Case Manager Angie Sciarone, Community Health Worker Meghan Carr, Community Paramedic Aaron Fullenwider, Community Paramedic Ashley Robinson and Resource Coordinator Vanessa MargrafBrenn of Manatee County EMS.

WELLSTON 150TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Village of Wellston, Ohio. Since its founding in 1873, the Village of Wellston has been an important industrial and historical center of Southeast Ohio for nearly 2 centuries.

Harvey Wells, a Civil War veteran and Ohio native, used part of his Jackson County property to establish Wellston. Wellston was officially incorporated as a Village in 1876 with the hopes of being the "New Pittsburgh of the West."

With the construction of numerous blast furnaces, the Village of Wellston solidified itself as an important industrial and mining town in Southern Ohio. Wellston also played an important role in the Underground Railroad system acting as one of the first stops in the North and became the settling point for several freed slaves.

Throughout its history, the Village of Wellston has been a beacon of prosperity and freedom for Southern Ohio, and I am honored to represent a town with such a rich history and strong sense of community.

Again, I want to congratulate the Village of Wellston on celebrating its 150th Anniversary and recognize their importance to Jackson County and all of Southern Ohio. May they continue to prosper over the centuries to come.

SCHREINER UNIVERSITY 100TH  
BIRTHDAY

**HON. CHIP ROY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th birthday of Schreiner University in Kerrville, TX. A generous donation of land and finances by Captain Charles Schreiner in 1917 made this possible. He served with distinction in the Texas Rangers.

Capt. Schreiner outlined his vision for the Institute as "facilities for high grade instruction and military training for boys and young men as preparation for college and university work."

James J. Delaney served as the first president of Schreiner Institute. From the beginning, it has been committed to the Reformed tradition of the Presbyterian Church.

The first class of female students was admitted during World War II. Formal military training ended in 1971, and the Institute became fully coeducational.

In the year 2000, Schreiner's governing board voted to change the school's name to Schreiner University. The years immediately following the name change saw various renovations and new buildings take shape on campus.

Online classes started in 2014 and have expanded since then, now including a full online master's program. Recently, Schreiner introduced their Military Academy Preparatory School to provide paths for students into military service.

In its 100th year, Schreiner University is proud to bring back a pastime from its early days, football. Other sport disciplines for students include soccer, wrestling, equestrian, shooting sports, and tennis.

Today, Schreiner University president Charlie McCormick oversees a campus that offers over 30 different degree options. I am proud that the Hill Country is home to a university the caliber of Schreiner. Congratulations on 100 years of helping students achieve more.

REMEMBERING SERGEANT JOHN  
EDWARD DINGMAN

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Ms. STEFANK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of United States Marine Corps Sergeant John Edward Dingman.

John Dingman was born on September 2, 1950, in Chatham, New York. He attended

Maple Hill High School before enlisting with the United States Marine Corps in August 1969. Sergeant Dingman served bravely in the Vietnam War as a Special Radio Operator from 1969 to 1973. Upon his honorable discharge, he earned the National Defense Service Medal and the Good Conduct Medal.

Returning to civilian life, Sergeant Dingman began a 40-year career with General Electric Plastics in Selkirk, New York. He and his wife Linda Jewett Dingman were married on October 8, 1983. The couple raised their 3 children—Beth, Jason, and Melanie—together in Rensselaer County. Family always came first for Sergeant Dingman as a father, a grandfather, and eventually a great-grandfather.

Sergeant Dingman was a lifelong and avid outdoorsman. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and camping in the wilderness, and shared his expertise with his community as a fish and game instructor. His ideal getaway was the Adirondack Gateway RV Resort. A member of the National Rifle Association, Sergeant Dingman also taught rifle classes and bow-hunting courses.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to recognize the life of Sergeant John E. Dingman; a soldier, a mentor, and a family man.

HONORING THE PROMOTORES Y  
PROMOTORAS OF LATINO  
HEALTH ACCESS

**HON. J. LUIS CORREA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of Latino Health Access, an organization that works tirelessly to uplift communities, promote health equity, and create sustainable change.

Latino Health Access (LHA) has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to these ideals through its mission, which partners with communities to aid through education, services, consciousness-raising, and civic participation.

Latino Health Access's mission is multifaceted, encompassing the delivery of culturally appropriate health-related services and programming to address pressing health concerns, as well as engaging individuals in low-income, low-opportunity areas to transform their environments and effect positive, concrete changes in their homes and communities.

Since its establishment in 1993, Latino Health Access has been a trailblazer in the field of public health by pioneering the Promotor de Salud/Community Health Worker (CHW) model in the United States, recognizing the potential of individuals from within communities to advocate for better health and living conditions.

The Promotores y Promotoras, who are integral to the Latino Health Access approach, are community members themselves, living within the very neighborhoods they serve, and are dedicated to promoting, connecting, and linking their communities with vital health services while also advocating at local, county, and state levels for policies that enhance overall living conditions.

Today, equity lies at the heart of the Promotor Model, which contributes to building

healthier and more resilient communities by providing systems navigation services, surmounting barriers to access, and amplifying community leadership and participation, while simultaneously advocating for policy, systems, and environmental changes that address the social determinants of health.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the profound impact of Latino Health Access and its Promoter Model.

HONORING GAYE THERESA  
LEBARON

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mister Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague Congressman JARED HUFFMAN to honor Gaye Theresa LeBaron in celebration of her outstanding career as a journalist, teacher, author and historian.

Born in the town of Scotia, California, in 1935, Mrs. LeBaron moved to Boyes Hot Springs in Sonoma County when she was 14 years old. She attended Santa Rosa Junior College before transferring to the University of California, Berkeley to pursue a bachelor's degree in English and History.

Her illustrious career as an historian and human-interest columnist at the Press Democrat in Santa Rosa, California, began in 1955 when she became an intern. During her 65 years with the Press Democrat as a reporter and later columnist, she wrote 8,500 columns, married her late husband John LeBaron and had her 2 children, Suzanne and Tony. Mrs. LeBaron has since gifted her research notes, correspondence, memoirs, unpublished documents, newspaper clippings and photographs to Sonoma State University. Students and the public enjoy access to the Gaye LeBaron Collection.

Mrs. LeBaron has a deep love of Sonoma County history. She told our county's story as a lecturer at the Santa Rosa Junior College for 35 years as well as at Sonoma State University's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. She has written 3 books on the history of Santa Rosa: Santa Rosa: A Nineteenth Century Town, Santa Rosa: A Twentieth Century Town, and The Wonder Seekers of Fountaingrove. Mrs. LeBaron also served on the Sonoma County Museum Leadership Council, further dedicating herself to the history of Sonoma County. Now her permanent exhibit at the museum, Sonoma County Stories, will ensure future generations can experience her life's work.

Widely renowned in our community, Mrs. LeBaron received the Representative Mike Thompson Sonoma County Woman of the Year Award in 2016, an Honorary Doctorate of Letters from Sonoma State University and a President's Medallion from the Santa Rosa Junior College Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that Mrs. LeBaron has dedicated her life to the people of Sonoma County through her writing, teaching and service.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF  
THOMAS ROY BIRKENSTOCK

**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life and service of Mr. Thomas "Tom" Roy Birkenstock of Burlington, Iowa, who passed away on August 15, 2023.

Mr. Birkenstock was born on July 16, 1944, in Burlington, Iowa to Roy George and Marjorie Maude Holsteen Birkenstock. A lifelong farmer, he graduated from Iowa State University in 1966 with a degree in Animal Science. Mr. Birkenstock also served 6 years in the National Guard. He married Sue Ellen Maupin on February 26, 1966, and together, they have 3 children and many more grandchildren.

Those who knew Mr. Birkenstock will tell you that he was always generous and kind. He never knew a stranger, and happily engaged every individual he met. Mr. Birkenstock always put family first and committed much of his time to his grandchildren. In his free time, Mr. Birkenstock was passionate about golfing, woodworking, hunting, fishing, and sports; he was a loud and proud supporter of the Iowa Hawkeyes, Green Bay Packers, and the St. Louis Cardinals. A devoted man of faith, Mr. Birkenstock was a longtime member of the Knights of Columbus fraternal organization and St. Mary's Catholic Church in Dodgeville, where he served on the church council and taught Sunday School. His generosity and contributions towards his local community were unmatched and will be remembered for many years to come.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize Mr. Birkenstock's life and service to our Nation. He will be dearly missed by his friends, family, and all who knew him.

HONORING HAITIAN BOAT PEOPLE

**HON. FEDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary landing of the first boat carrying Haitian refugees to South Florida.

On December 12, 1972, the first report of Haitian refugees, often called "Haitian Boat People," fleeing to the United States, was documented. Between 1972 and 1981, over 55,000 refugees arrived in Florida and have continued to thrive thanks to community champions who supported the Haitian migrant population.

Today, the South Florida Haitian refugee population has accomplished many firsts, becoming mayors, councilmembers, and state representatives. Miami's historic Lemon City became the first neighborhood officially called Little Haiti. Central streets were named after Haitian cultural icons such as Felix Morisseau-Leroy and heroes of Haiti's independence. A statue of Toussaint Louverture stands guard on Plas Kamoken in Little Haiti. Toussaint Elementary was home to the first Haitian American principal, and Morningside Elementary

became the first international language magnet in the country to offer Haitian Creole. The Little Haiti Cultural Center has become the mecca for the global Haitian Diaspora, a destination for arts, culture, and entertainment. And the Manno Sannon Stadium is home to the championship-winning Little Haiti Supreme Football Team.

December 12, 2022, marked the 50th anniversary of the first documented arrival of Haitian refugees fleeing Haiti by sea. This anniversary marks the beginning of an incredible journey that has transformed South Florida's social, cultural, and political landscape. History-making events have since followed, impacting federal jurisprudence, local advocacy efforts for immigrant justice, and the treatment of asylum seekers in healthcare, education, employment, and housing.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the legacy of the Haitian boat people.

RECOGNIZING VICTORIA SWANSON JAMES' LIFE AND SERVICE TO THE CITY OF YPSILANTI

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pastor Victoria Swanson James, a resident of Ypsilanti, Michigan whose life her community is celebrating on her passing. Her lifelong dedication to her family, church, and community is worthy of remembrance and commendation.

An Ypsilanti native, Victoria earned her Bachelor's in Education from our great Eastern Michigan University. After earning a Master's in Education as well as a Certificate of School Administration, Victoria served as an educator in the Willow Run and Ann Arbor Public Schools for over a decade. In 1978, she answered the call to the ministry. She was later ordained in 1981 at the Metropolitan Memorial Baptist Church, also in Ypsilanti. Under the leadership of the late Rev. Dr. S.L. Roberson, Victoria served as his First Assistant for over 20 years.

Outgrowing her role as an assistant, Victoria founded the Ekklesia Fellowship Ministries in Ypsilanti in 2000 and assumed the role of Pastor. In 2004, she founded the "Women of The Word, Too" an organization that provides mentoring and an outlet for women clergy throughout Washtenaw County and the surrounding area. Active in a range of organizations, Pastor James's service areas were quite extensive: member of the Love Ypsi Pastors

Network, Washtenaw County Sheriff Council of Clergy, Hope Clinic Board of Directors, Pastoral Advisory Council for the Hope Clinic, former President of the Ypsilanti Gateway Economic Development Board, and former 1st Vice-President of the Ypsilanti Willow Run branch of the NAACP. Victoria's son, DeV Vaughn, who has been preaching in her stead, had this to say: "She loved her city. Mom believed in the village mindset. There's a proverb in our community that says 'it takes a village to raise a child.' Mom was confident in the strength and richness of the Ypsilanti village. That's why she committed her life to uplifting this village."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the life service of Pastor Victoria Swanson James. Despite being the mother of 8 and Nana of 15, Victoria always had love to spare for her congregation and her community. We remember her fondly, and her presence will continue to be felt in the Ypsilanti community for years to come.

JERUSALEM'S GOLDEN SILENCE

**HON. JENNIFER A. KIGGANS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD remarks submitted at the request of a Virginia Beach constituent, Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman of Temple Lev Tikvah, and are a reflection of his views:

RABBI ZOBERMAN'S POEM—JERUSALEM'S GOLDEN SILENCE

These days there is a golden silence  
Overcoming the shouts of the prophets  
Of old and new, "peace, peace"  
And there is no peace  
But the silence of sealed echoes  
Of hope in holy crevices where  
Shalom's doves find shelter at the  
Wall where wailing has not abated,  
The silence of the cloud of glory  
Encircling God's city like an embracing  
Wedding canopy.  
The voice of the groom  
And the voice of the bride  
Whose rejoicing is Jerusalem's signature,  
Are ever preserved under the heavy silence  
Of immovable rocks hiding millennial  
Prayers refusing to concede victory to  
A spirit bespeaking not the contrition  
Of sacrifice brought here from near  
And afar to placate the One  
Who only pardons those seeking  
The promising power of peace.

Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman is founder and spiritual leader of Temple Lev Tikvah, and Honorary Senior Rabbi Scholar at Eastern

Shore Chapel Episcopal, both in Virginia Beach. He is a member of the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission.

RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF MARK GROZIO

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2023*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I am honored to recognize Legislator Mark Grozio and his remarkable career in public service. As a lifelong resident, graduate of LaSalle High School, and graduate of Niagara County Community College, Mark has always been equipped with a deep-seated familiarity and knowledge of his community.

His career as a county legislator was preceded by over 3 decades as a wireman and IBEW member. He graduated from apprenticeship school, and naturally, his predilection for leadership roles made him a good fit for serving as assistant business manager for over 10 years at IBEW Local 237. Mark served on the contract negotiation committee, executive board, and labor management committee. Needless to say, Legislator Grozio has long understood the value of labor unions and apprenticeship training. This experience served him well in the legislature while dealing with issues of economic development, infrastructure, and facilities. Through the years, Mark sought additional ways to enhance his community. He served on the Niagara Falls planning board, the Niagara Falls electrical board, and volunteers for the festival of lights and Veterans Memorial at Hyde Park in Niagara Falls. He has worked with United Way, coached Little League baseball, and assisted with several ice hockey organizations. Every hour that Mark devotes to one of these causes shows his true character—one that is service-oriented and generous.

Some of the hallmarks of a great career in public service are competence and a keen awareness of the issues facing your constituency. Legislator Mark Grozio exemplified these 2 characteristics for 10 years in the county legislature, and all the residents of Niagara County owe him a debt of gratitude. After countless hearings, meetings, and events, it is time that we wish Mark a very happy retirement. He will surely enjoy more time with his wife of 40 years, Lynda, and his entire family. In the meantime, his community will continue to reap the benefits of his career of hard work.