

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING MARY FAUS WHO SHE LEADS AMERICA IS HONORING AS A CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF DISTINCTION RECIPIENT

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor exceptional female leaders throughout our Nation who have recently been recognized as "Christian Women of Distinction" by She Leads America.

While I strive to lead by example for my constituents back home in Michigan, I understand that not everyone looks to Washington politics for role models. Thankfully, we do not need to look far to be inspired by individuals led by their strong faith, moral values, and unwavering dedication to their communities. Today, I am proud to honor some of the women who through their hard work and tireless dedication have brought great inspiration to many throughout the world.

As a United States Representative, it is both my sacred and constitutional obligation to remain steadfast in my commitment to the defense of religious freedom. Now more than ever, we must safeguard religious liberty to ensure that each of these women and those I serve never have to compromise their religious beliefs.

One of the women honored by She Leads America, Mary Faus, is a Anishinaabekwe of the Ojibway Cree. In her community, Mary is a spiritual leader and proud advocate for her native people. Mary is a founder and active member of All Tribes DC, which is a Christian-based nonprofit organization formed by Native Americans that encourages spiritual empowerment. Mary has ministered in several countries and throughout North America, bringing inspiration to many.

Mr. Speaker, these women, including Mary, have left an indelible mark on countless lives. They are pioneers whose examples have—and will continue to—inspire many. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of them for their unwavering dedication. This honor is truly well-deserved.

RECOGNIZING DR. DAY GARDNER WHO SHE LEADS AMERICA IS HONORING AS A CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF DISTINCTION RECIPIENT

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor exceptional female leaders throughout our Nation who have recently been recognized as "Christian Women of Distinction" by She Leads America.

While I strive to lead by example for my constituents back home in Michigan, I understand that not everyone looks to Washington politics for role models. Thankfully, we do not need to look far to be inspired by individuals led by their strong faith, moral values, and unwavering dedication to their communities. Today, I am proud to honor some of the women who through their hard work and tireless dedication have brought great inspiration to many throughout the world.

As a United States Representative, it is both my sacred and constitutional obligation to remain steadfast in my commitment to the defense of religious freedom. Now more than ever, we must safeguard religious liberty to ensure that each of these women and those I serve never have to compromise their religious beliefs.

One of the women honored by She Leads America, Dr. Day Gardner, is a civil rights activist serving as President of the National Black Pro-Life Union. Dr. Gardner also serves on the National Clergy Council on Capitol Hill, Project 21 National Advisory Council, and sits on several boards both on the state and national level. Dr. Gardner was also the first African American contestant to place as a semi-finalist at the Miss America Pageant, has led a career in broadcasting, and is a motivational speaker.

Mr. Speaker, these women, including Dr. Gardner, have left an indelible mark on countless lives. They are pioneers whose examples have—and will continue to—inspire many. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of them for their unwavering dedication. This honor is truly well-deserved.

RECOGNIZING TERRY ANNE MEEUWSEN WHO SHE LEADS AMERICA IS HONORING AS A CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF DISTINCTION RECIPIENT

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor exceptional female leaders throughout our Nation who have recently been recognized as "Christian Women of Distinction" by She Leads America.

While I strive to lead by example for my constituents back home in Michigan, I understand that not everyone looks to Washington politics for role models. Thankfully, we do not need to look far to be inspired by individuals led by their strong faith, moral values, and unwavering dedication to their communities. Today, I am proud to honor some of the women who through their hard work and tireless dedication have brought great inspiration to many throughout the world.

As a United States Representative, it is both my sacred and constitutional obligation to remain steadfast in my commitment to the de-

fense of religious freedom. Now more than ever, we must safeguard religious liberty to ensure that each of these women and those I serve never have to compromise their religious beliefs.

One of the women honored by She Leads America, Terry Anne Meeuwesen, is a trailblazer and recognized talent in Christian broadcasting. In 1973, Terry was crowned Miss America and has since used her singing and acting talents on television. For over 30 years, Terry has greeted millions of viewers from the Christian Broadcasting Network's studio in Virginia Beach. Terry is also an accomplished author, children's advocate, and inspiration to many.

Mr. Speaker, these women, including Terry, have left an indelible mark on countless lives. They are pioneers whose examples have—and will continue to—inspire many. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of them for their unwavering dedication. This honor is truly well-deserved.

RECOGNIZING THE HISTORY OF THE JEFFERSON HIGHWAY

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the remarkable history of the Jefferson Highway that runs through Bonham, Texas. This route was America's first north-south intercontinental roadway and was inspired by the east-west Lincoln Highway that connected Times Square in New York City, New York, to Lincoln Park in San Francisco, California.

The Jefferson Highway was first laid in the 1910s as part of the National Auto Trail system and was named for President Thomas Jefferson. Its southern terminus was in New Orleans, Louisiana, and ran through several North Texas cities, including Bonham, before finally coming to a stop in Winnipeg, Canada. It was aptly known as the "Pine to Palm Highway" for the types of trees that drivers could find at either end of the route.

In its early years, Bonham residents were fierce advocates for the Jefferson Highway to run through their town to improve automobile access across state lines. In fact, in the Jefferson Highway Declaration in January of 1918, the citizens of Bonham famously declared: "May Bonham live a thousand years less a day, for Bonham would not care to be on the map should the Jefferson Highway go some other way."

Over a hundred years ago, millions of Americans took the same highway, drove on the same roads, and pushed the boundaries of innovation to lay the foundations of the civilization that we know today.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capital to recognize the importance of the Jefferson Highway

• 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.

to Bonham and the Lone Star State. As the City of Bonham celebrates its 175th anniversary this year, we should always look to the past every now and then to protect and preserve our Nation's history for future generations to admire.

HONORING TREVONNI ROSSI

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Trevonni Rossi from Cañon City for his acceptance into the Juilliard Summer Dance Intensive, an exclusive and highly competitive program.

Even at his young age, Mr. Rossi has an extensive dance career that extends far beyond his years. He was named Mr. Dance America at a prestigious regional dance competition for two consecutive years, earned the World Dance Championship Finalist award in 2019, and ranked fourth in the world at the Soloist World Dance Pageant in 2022.

Mr. Rossi's relentless drive, passion, and exceptional skills have been the driving force behind his success. It is an honor for me to extend my heartfelt congratulations to him on his well-deserved acceptance to the prestigious Juilliard Summer Dance Intensive. As he begins this exciting journey, our community is wishing him the best and waiting to see all he achieves in the future.

HONORING THE LEADERSHIP AND LEGACY OF JOHN "JACK" HARRINGTON COSTELLO, JR.

HON. LORI TRAHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Mrs. TRAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the tremendous contributions and legacy of John "Jack" Harrington Costello, Jr., a successful publisher and editor of the Lowell Sun and a beloved community leader who dedicated his life to the prosperity of my hometown, the city of Lowell and its community. He passed away peacefully on August 28, 2023.

Jack was born in Lowell in 1944. After graduating from Keith Academy in 1963, Jack would go on to study business at Boston College. He then attended Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island where he would later graduate and proudly serve his country as a Lieutenant in the United States Navy from 1967 to 1970.

After the Navy, Jack returned to his hometown of Lowell where he embarked on a 3 decades-long professional career at his cherished family-founded local paper, The Lowell Sun. Jack got his start as a sports writer before quickly moving up through the ranks to sports editor, to editor, and ultimately taking his destined position as the Sun's publisher. He was known for his integrity, persistence, decisiveness, and ability to extract the best out of his employees and those around him. The Sun thrived under Jack's leadership due to his mission of keeping the paper hyperlocal,

so residents were always informed of what was happening in their community. Over the span of his career, Jack carefully curated a local paper that was dedicated to delivering accurate and relevant news to the Greater Lowell area.

When he wasn't working tirelessly to ensure the Sun ran smoothly, Jack was involved in the revitalization of his hometown. His expertise and vision for the future of the City made him a trusted confidant to many business and political leaders over the years. He served as Chairman of the Lowell Memorial Auditorium, which welcomed many talented artists to perform at the venue under his stewardship. Jack also served as Chairman of the Tsongas Arena Commission and was instrumental in the arena's creation. In addition to these accomplishments, he is also responsible for helping to bring professional hockey and baseball teams to Lowell for the community to enjoy. Jack's contributions to Lowell have made a lasting impact on the city and will continue to be felt for generations to come.

Jack will be remembered for his love for his family and friends, his kindness to those around him, his distinguished professional career, and his immense pride in the City of Lowell. My heart goes out to Brenda, his loving wife of 54 years, his children, John III, Peter, Nicole, and Suzanne, and the entire Costello family during this difficult time. Jack's legacy will live on through his loving family and all of us who had the honor of knowing him.

RECOGNIZING LORI WINDHAM WHO SHE LEADS AMERICA IS HONORING AS A CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF DISTINCTION RECIPIENT

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor exceptional female leaders throughout our Nation who have recently been recognized as "Christian Women of Distinction" by She Leads America.

While I strive to lead by example for my constituents back home in Michigan, I understand that not everyone looks to Washington politics for role models. Thankfully, we do not need to look far to be inspired by individuals led by their strong faith, moral values, and unwavering dedication to their communities. Today, I am proud to honor some of the women who through their hard work and tireless dedication have brought great inspiration to many throughout the world.

As a United States Representative, it is both my sacred and constitutional obligation to remain steadfast in my commitment to the defense of religious freedom. Now more than ever, we must safeguard religious liberty to ensure that each of these women and those I serve never have to compromise their religious beliefs.

One of the women honored by She Leads America, Lori Windham, is vice president and senior counsel at Becket. In this capacity, Lori proudly defends religious freedom before the United States Supreme Court. Her work in *Fulton v. Philadelphia*, as well as in *Becket's Hobby Lobby and Little Sisters of the Poor* vic-

tories, has protected many from religious discrimination. Lori is a renowned expert on religious freedom and in First Amendment Law and has testified before U.S. Congress.

Mr. Speaker, these women, including Lori, have left an indelible mark on countless lives. They are pioneers whose examples have—and will continue to—inspire many. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of them for their unwavering dedication. This honor is truly well-deserved.

HONORING COURTNEY DAUWALTER

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Courtney Dauwalter, a remarkable ultrarunner and Leadville resident who continues to redefine the boundaries of endurance in the world of ultra-distance racing.

In July 2023, Ms. Dauwalter achieved the remarkable feat of being the first female finisher at the grueling Hardrock 100-mile foot race, only a few weeks after she emerged victorious at the Western States 100 in California. She also won the Ultra-Trail du Mont-Blanc, a race renowned for its extreme difficulty and terrain. With this victory, she made history, becoming the first person ever to win all 3 of these races in a single year and the second person ever to achieve this incredible trifecta in their lifetime.

Ms. Dauwalter's unparalleled accomplishments serve as an inspiration to all, demonstrating that with grit and dedication, one can achieve the seemingly impossible. We wish Ms. Dauwalter the best of luck as she continues her running career and inspires fellow athletes and fans in Colorado and around the world.

RECOGNIZING THE TRINITY LOVE HOBLIT FOUNDATION

HON. AARON BEAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, did you know that September is national Brain Aneurysm Awareness month?

The Trinity Love Hoblit Foundation certainly does. The Foundation is a nonprofit, headquartered in Florida and named after Trinity, who at age 9 was diagnosed with multiple brain aneurysms. In 2015, Trinity was scheduled for open brain surgery but passed away 2 days prior because her aneurysm ruptured.

About 1 in 50 Americans have an unruptured brain aneurysm. Brain aneurysms are more common and harmful than people know.

Mr. Speaker, while her passing was a tragic loss for our community, The Trinity Love Hoblit Foundation honors her legacy through raising awareness, supporting research, and identifying training for brain aneurysms at Wolfson's Children's Hospital and Baptist Neurological Institute in Jacksonville, Florida.

I thank the Trinity Love Hoblit team for all they do.

RECOGNIZING DR. SUSAN MICHAEL WHO SHE LEADS AMERICA IS HONORING AS A CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF DISTINCTION RECIPIENT

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor exceptional female leaders throughout our Nation who have recently been recognized as "Christian Women of Distinction" by She Leads America.

While I strive to lead by example for my constituents back home in Michigan, I understand that not everyone looks to Washington politics for role models. Thankfully, we do not need to look far to be inspired by individuals led by their strong faith, moral values, and unwavering dedication to their communities. Today, I am proud to honor some of the women who through their hard work and tireless dedication have brought great inspiration to many throughout the world.

As a United States Representative, it is both my sacred and constitutional obligation to remain steadfast in my commitment to the defense of religious freedom. Now more than ever, we must safeguard religious liberty to ensure that each of these women and those I serve never have to compromise their religious beliefs.

One of the women honored by She Leads America, Dr. Susan Michael, is the Director of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem and a member of its board. Susan's studies and travel to Israel over the past 45 years have allowed her to skillfully handle a variety of issues regarding biblical and modern Israel. To that end, Susan is a remarkably gifted author, teacher, and speaker. She has produced highly cited articles, podcasts, and educational resources, serving many throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, these women, including Dr. Michael, have left an indelible mark on countless lives. They are pioneers whose examples have—and will continue to—inspire many. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of them for their unwavering dedication. This honor is truly well-deserved.

TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HEROES
ELIZABETH PICKETT AND
NOELLE DORGAN

HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Heroes, Elizabeth Pickett and Noelle Dorgan. Over the summer, when a woman dialed 9-1-1 as her husband experienced a cardiac event, Elizabeth and Noelle stepped up to help save a life. As Emergency Communications Specialists for the Grapevine Police Department, they successfully guided the caller through the steps of CPR. Thanks to the clear instructions

of these first responders and the caller's immediate action, the patient was able to be saved once paramedics arrived. Recently, Elizabeth and Noelle earned well-deserved recognition from the Grapevine Fire Department for their heroic efforts. Their composure amidst this intense situation was the difference between life and death. I want to thank both Elizabeth and Noelle for their dedication to serving the community and their efforts to tend to the safety and health of Texas-24.

RECOGNIZING DR. LARINDA KING WHO SHE LEADS AMERICA IS HONORING AS A CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF DISTINCTION RECIPIENT

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor exceptional female leaders throughout our Nation who have recently been recognized as "Christian Women of Distinction" by She Leads America.

While I strive to lead by example for my constituents back home in Michigan, I understand that not everyone looks to Washington politics for role models. Thankfully, we do not need to look far to be inspired by individuals led by their strong faith, moral values, and unwavering dedication to their communities. Today, I am proud to honor some of the women who through their hard work and tireless dedication have brought great inspiration to many throughout the world.

As a United States Representative, it is both my sacred and constitutional obligation to remain steadfast in my commitment to the defense of religious freedom. Now more than ever, we must safeguard religious liberty to ensure that each of these women and those I serve never have to compromise their religious beliefs.

One of the women honored by She Leads America, Dr. Larinda King, is an entrepreneur and inspiration to many. Dr. King has been an Elite Executive Senior Sales Director with Mary Kay since 2019, with her team ranking #1 in 2021. Dr. King has founded several community organizations, including a church, and is also Executive Director of Remnant Kingship Academy. In addition to these roles, she is also an expert broadcaster in television and radio.

Mr. Speaker, these women, including Dr. King, have left an indelible mark on countless lives. They are pioneers whose examples have—and will continue to—inspire many. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of them for their unwavering dedication. This honor is truly well-deserved.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MRS. ETHELYN SZAD BELL OF BONHAM, TEXAS

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th birthday of Mrs. Ethelyn

Szad Bell of Bonham, Texas. Mrs. Bell served in the United States Army Nurse Corps in the Second World War and will turn 100 years old on October 4, 2023.

Mrs. Bell was born in Wallingford, Connecticut on October 4, 1923, to Charles and Gertrude Szad. As the Second World War raged on, Mrs. Bell heard President Franklin D. Roosevelt's appeal to the Nation for additional hospital staff, so she enlisted in the United States Army on March 26, 1945. She completed basic training for Army nurses at Fort Devens, Massachusetts, and set sail to the Philippines with the Army Nurse Corps on the hospital ship USAHS *Charles A. Stafford*. During this time, Mrs. Bell provided care for wounded soldiers in a tent city within the Philippine jungles. She later transferred to Nagoya, Japan, and tended to American GIs in a converted hospital. For her service and efforts, Second Lieutenant Bell was awarded a citation from President Harry S. Truman, and she was honorably discharged on June 19, 1946.

After the Army, Mrs. Bell worked at the Veterans Administration Hospital in McKinney, Texas. In 1947, she met her husband, fellow Army veteran Charles Bell, on a blind date. They married a year later on October 16, 1948, and moved to Prosper, Texas. Together, they raised 2 children, Tom and Cindy. Mrs. Bell later worked as a school nurse at the North Ward and West Ward Elementary Schools in McKinney until her retirement in 1978. In her free time, she enjoys traveling and visiting casinos. I am honored to commemorate Mrs. Bell today on reaching her centennial.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capital to recognize Mrs. Bell's remarkable journey and service to our Nation. May God bless Mrs. Bell as we celebrate 100 years of life and joy.

RECOGNIZING CHARMAINE HEDDING WHO SHE LEADS AMERICA IS HONORING AS A CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF DISTINCTION RECIPIENT

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor exceptional female leaders throughout our Nation who have recently been recognized as "Christian Women of Distinction" by She Leads America.

While I strive to lead by example for my constituents back home in Michigan, I understand that not everyone looks to Washington politics for role models. Thankfully, we do not need to look far to be inspired by individuals led by their strong faith, moral values, and unwavering dedication to their communities. Today, I am proud to honor some of the women who through their hard work and tireless dedication have brought great inspiration to many throughout the world.

As a United States Representative, it is both my sacred and constitutional obligation to remain steadfast in my commitment to the defense of religious freedom. Now more than ever, we must safeguard religious liberty to ensure that each of these women and those I

serve never have to compromise their religious beliefs.

One of the women honored by She Leads America, Charmaine Hedding, is a global development manager in the non-profit sector. In this role, she focuses on the protection of Christians and other minorities in the Middle East and Africa. A fierce proponent of religious freedom, she has also assisted in many humanitarian projects, including the evacuation of over 9,000 people from Afghanistan. Today, she also consults for government agencies, authorities, and faith-based organizations.

Mr. Speaker, these women, including Charmaine, have left an indelible mark on countless lives. They are pioneers whose examples have—and will continue to—inspire many. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of them for their unwavering dedication. This honor is truly well-deserved.

HONORING JEFFERSON COUNTY
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK AND RE-
CORDEE PEG PERL

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Peg Perl, the Chief Deputy Clerk and Recorder for Jefferson County. She was chosen by the U.S. Department of State's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights to help oversee a recent Uzbekistan election in July 2023. Ms. Perl was stationed at an election site in Namangan, near the Kyrgyzstan border. She and her fellow delegates reviewed the set-up process, voting, counting, and reporting of results late into the night. Ms. Perl's commitment to service and democracy helped to ensure voting was accessible and protected during this election.

Ms. Perl has over 20 years of experience in election administration, voting rights, and government ethics at the national, state, and local levels. She helped design and enact Colorado's modern voting laws as well as many state and city campaign disclosure reforms while serving as Senior Counsel for the non-partisan Colorado Ethics Watch. In 2017, she was named one of the Top Women Attorneys by Law Week Colorado. Prior to moving to Colorado in 2010, Ms. Perl served as a non-partisan counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives Ethics Committee and as a policy attorney with the Federal Election Commission. She has shown a lifelong dedication and devotion to the ideals of democracy, and today we recognize her commitment to service.

RECOGNIZING JACI VELASQUEZ
WHO SHE LEADS AMERICA IS
HONORING AS A CHRISTIAN
WOMEN OF DISTINCTION RECIPIENT

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor exceptional female leaders throughout

our Nation who have recently been recognized as "Christian Women of Distinction" by She Leads America.

While I strive to lead by example for my constituents back home in Michigan, I understand that not everyone looks to Washington politics for role models. Thankfully, we do not need to look far to be inspired by individuals led by their strong faith, moral values, and unwavering dedication to their communities. Today, I am proud to honor some of the women who through their hard work and tireless dedication have brought great inspiration to many throughout the world.

As a United States Representative, it is both my sacred and constitutional obligation to remain steadfast in my commitment to the defense of religious freedom. Now more than ever, we must safeguard religious liberty to ensure that each of these women and those I serve never have to compromise their religious beliefs.

One of the women honored by She Leads America, Jaci Velasquez, is a Grammy nominated and platinum-selling Christian artist who has recorded albums in English and Spanish. Since her debut at 16, she has had 16 No. 1 hits, authored three books, acted in seven movies, and has appeared on 50 magazine covers. Jaci has also received 7 Dove Awards, a Premio Lo Nuestro Award, 3 Grammy nominations, 2 Latin Grammy nominations, and an American Music Award nomination.

Mr. Speaker, these women, including Jaci, have left an indelible mark on countless lives. They are pioneers whose examples have—and will continue to—inspire many. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of them for their unwavering dedication. This honor is truly well-deserved.

RECOGNIZING JONI EARECKSON
TADA WHO SHE LEADS AMERICA
IS HONORING AS A CHRISTIAN
WOMEN OF DISTINCTION RECIPIENT

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor exceptional female leaders throughout our Nation who have recently been recognized as "Christian Women of Distinction" by She Leads America.

While I strive to lead by example for my constituents back home in Michigan, I understand that not everyone looks to Washington politics for role models. Thankfully, we do not need to look far to be inspired by individuals led by their strong faith, moral values, and unwavering dedication to their communities. Today, I am proud to honor some of the women who through their hard work and tireless dedication have brought great inspiration to many throughout the world.

As a United States Representative, it is both a sacred and constitutional obligation to remain steadfast in my commitment to the defense of religious freedom. Now more than ever, we must safeguard religious liberty to ensure that each of these women and those I serve never have to compromise their religious beliefs.

One of the women honored by She Leads America, Joni Eareckson Tada, is a hero to

many. In 1967, Joni was left paralyzed by a diving accident but quickly emerged from rehabilitation, determined to help others who have similar disabilities. Her autobiography, Joni, has been adapted into a film and was also translated into 15 different languages. Today, she serves as the CEO of Joni and Friends, which serves to assist those who are disabled and in need of assistance. Through this organization, Joni has delivered over 220,000 wheelchairs in developing nations and has hosted over 64,000 families at Family Retreats and Getaways. Joni also had the unique opportunity to serve her country on the National Council on Disability during the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Mr. Speaker, these women, including Joni, have left an indelible mark on countless lives. They are pioneers whose examples have—and will continue to—inspire many. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of them for their unwavering dedication. This honor is truly well-deserved.

RECOGNIZING SHARON
DAUGHTERTY WHO SHE LEADS
AMERICA IS HONORING AS A
CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF DISTINCTION
RECIPIENT

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 22, 2023

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor exceptional female leaders throughout our Nation who have recently been recognized as "Christian Women of Distinction" by She Leads America.

While I strive to lead by example for my constituents back home in Michigan, I understand that not everyone looks to Washington politics for role models. Thankfully, we do not need to look far to be inspired by individuals led by their strong faith, moral values, and unwavering dedication to their communities. Today, I am proud to honor some of the women who through their hard work and tireless dedication have brought great inspiration to many throughout the world.

As a United States Representative, it is both my sacred and constitutional obligation to remain steadfast in my commitment to the defense of religious freedom. Now more than ever, we must safeguard religious liberty to ensure that each of these women and those I serve never have to compromise their religious beliefs.

One of the women honored by She Leads America, Sharon Daughterty, founded Victory Christian Center in 1981 alongside her husband. After his passing, Sharon served as the lead pastor for five years. Over time, Victory thrived and developed into a large church community with a K-12 school, Bible School, camp, and a community center. This church has also planted over 2,000 Bible Colleges in 102 countries and has played a supportive role in missions across the globe.

Mr. Speaker, these women, including Sharon, have left an indelible mark on countless lives. They are pioneers whose examples have—and will continue to—inspire many. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of them for their unwavering dedication. This honor is truly well-deserved.