

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS
GAUCHER DISEASE AWARENESS
MONTH

HON. CHRISTOPHER R. DeLUZIO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Mr. DELUZIO. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize that October is Gaucher Disease Awareness Month and spotlight the national patient advocacy organization, the Gaucher Community Alliance. Gaucher Disease is an ultra-rare genetic disorder that affects approximately 6,000 people in the United States. Gaucher Disease is the most common genetic disorder for persons of Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry. This disorder results from a build-up of fat laden Gaucher cells in organs such as the spleen and liver or in the bone marrow. As a result of this build up, the organs of people with Gaucher Disease can become enlarged, impeding their ability to function. If the bone tissue and bone marrow become affected, patients' bones will become weaker, making them more prone to fractures and ultimately could lead to bone death.

There are different forms of Gaucher Disease. Gaucher Type I accounts for 95% of patients in the United States. Patients with this specific type, experience spleen and liver enlargement including low blood counts and issues with the clotting process and various problems with their bones. The FDA has approved two types of treatments for Gaucher Type I, including enzyme replacement therapies (ERT) or oral substrate reduction therapies (SRT).

Gaucher Type 2 is rarer than Type I and is typically fatal within the first two years of life because of the severe neurological abnormalities associated with this type. Patients with Gaucher Type 2 suffer from poor development, seizures, jerking movements, poor ability to suck and swallow, as well as an enlarged liver and spleen. GCA hopes that a current clinical trial taking place to combat this terrible disorder that claims the lives of young, will show success.

Gaucher Type 3 is the most common Type worldwide and its severity falls between that of Type 1 and Type 2. Patients with Gaucher Type 3 suffer from a mix of symptoms from the first two types including seizures, skeletal irregularities, eye movement disorders, cognitive issues, poor coordination, an enlarged liver and spleen, respiratory problems, and various blood disorders such as anemia. It is important to note that patients can be characterized as having a blend of the types and not within a single category.

The Gaucher Community Alliance is the national nonprofit organization for the patient community, based in Western Pennsylvania. Two passionate Gaucher patient advocates founded GCA—Aviva Rosenberg of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Cyndi Frank of Sonoma, California. The mission of GCA is to

support patients with Gaucher Disease and their families through peer-to-peer support and education, advocacy, patient and family resources and networking. GCA collaborates with industry partners to encourage clinical trials for additional treatments and therapies; access to Patient Assistance Programs for Gaucher patients; and promote newborn screening for Gaucher Disease and other lysosomal storage disorders. GCA also hosts patient meetings around the country.

The Gaucher Community Alliance is working hard to improve the quality of life of those diagnosed with Gaucher Disease. I would like to salute the community during Gaucher Awareness Month.

HONORING DICK COOK

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to honor Dick Cook of Crystal City, Missouri, a legend in high school sports who is being inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame.

For 49 years, Mr. Cook coached at the high school level—34 of those years at Crystal City. Most of the time, he coached track and field, leading his 1984 and 1989 girls' teams to state championships in Class 2. During his time as coach, Crystal City earned 16 state championships by individuals and relay teams in track.

In the 1970s, he started the Jefferson County Jets Track Club, an AAU program that produced athletes who competed in the Big 8 Conference with one reaching the Olympics. He began his career in Poplar Bluff and coached a season at Herculaneum as well. But he spent most of his career in his hometown of Crystal City where he graduated high school in 1956 and graduated from the University of Missouri in 1960.

No one could be prouder of his achievements than his wife Mary Ellen, his son Richard, and daughters Mary Beth, Jill, and Amy Jo. I congratulate Coach Cook on his induction into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame this year and I am pleased to share his accomplishments today before the United States House of Representatives.

CONGRATULATING MARK
PELLETIER ON BEING NAMED
YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF THE
YEAR

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today in recognition of Mark Pelletier, a

New Hampshire resident who was recently named the 2023 Young Professional of the Year by the Cooperative Credit Union Association. The Cooperative Credit Union Association annual awards recognize individuals across Delaware, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire that make the extra effort to empower their coworkers, company, and community. As the Young Professional of the Year, Mark has been recognized for his experience, enthusiasm, and strong work ethic at St. Mary's Bank in Manchester.

A senior data analyst lead for St. Mary's, Mark was nominated by the credit union's leadership team and employees because of his inclusive leadership style, his skills in devising data-driven solutions, and his extensive volunteer record. For the past two years, Mark has served as Chairperson of St. Mary's Young Professionals Group. In this role, Mark has taken to guiding, influencing, and supporting other young professionals. Mark's time as leader of this Group is a testament to his talent and passion for promoting young business leaders across New Hampshire.

Outside of the office, Mark has committed himself to addressing the needs of his community. In his free time, Mark volunteers with organizations such as Families in Transition and Habitat for Humanity. Dedicated to empowering young leaders and committed to supporting the local community, Mark has enriched the lives of all those around him.

I look forward to seeing all that Mark accomplishes in the years to come, and I am confident that he will continue to serve as a guide for all those looking to make a difference at their workplace and in their community. On behalf of the constituents of New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I applaud Mark for his commendable leadership and wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

NORTHWEST DOUGLAS COUNTY
CHAMBER & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION—"WOMEN
WHO SOAR"

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, it is my honor today to recognize the accomplishments of three outstanding women. Ashley Ferris, Yvette Marquez-Sharpnack and Alice Jackson who will be honored by the Northwest Douglas County Chamber & Economic Development Corporation as "Women Who Soar."

Ashley Ferris, a law enforcement officer, left an indelible mark in Denver from 2018 to 2023. Even before her tenure as a dedicated law enforcement officer, her background as a United States Army Intelligence Analyst and project manager showcased her remarkable skills.

Ashley's heroic efforts were exemplified during the critical incident on December 27, 2021,

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

where she confronted and took down the Lakewood, CO mass shooter, despite sustaining injuries herself. This act of bravery earned her accolades, including the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year 2022 by the National Police Hall of Fame and the Valor Award. Her unwavering determination and resilience, even in the face of adversity, make her an inspiration.

Yvette Marquez-Sharpnack, a celebrated cookbook author and Emmy Award-winning creator and chef, blends her Texan roots into culinary masterpieces. Drawing inspiration from her grandmother's Mexican traditions and her mother's home-style dishes, she crafts delectable creations showcased on *MuyBuenoBlog.com*. Besides her blog, Yvette, based in Colorado, is a sought-after brand ambassador and recipe developer, engaging her audience on social media.

Alice Jackson is a trailblazer in the energy sector, shining as Xcel Energy's Senior Vice President of System Strategy and Chief Planning Officer. Her leadership in this male-dominated field has been transformative. With a decade of contributions, Alice has redefined the standards of excellence in executive leadership. Her success story is not just inspiring but a testament to her resilience, making her an inspiration for aspiring professionals in the industry.

From saving lives during a mass shooting to Emmy winning inspiration, this year's recipients have made a lasting impact on those around them and in our community. It is leaders like these women who will allow us to achieve a more prosperous and inclusive future and I congratulate them all on being recognized as "Women Who Soar."

TRIBUTE TO OPTUS BANK

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished South Carolina bank for its unwavering commitment to advancing minority-owned businesses. Optus Bank of Columbia, South Carolina was recently awarded the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) 2023 Robert J. Brown Minority Business Enterprise of the Year Award. Their steadfast support of businesses in distressed areas has uplifted communities and the lives of many.

To recognize the important role of entrepreneurs and institutions in advancing minority-owned businesses, the Minority Business Development Agency at the United States Department of Commerce established Minority Enterprise Development Week in 1983. Since then, the Department of Commerce has commenced numerous awards to celebrate the outstanding achievements of minority entrepreneurs. The Robert J. Brown Minority Business Enterprise Award recognizes companies that have exceeded industry standards and achieved phenomenal financial success while showing a commitment to social responsibility and strong community involvement. The award is among the highest levels of recognition that a U.S. minority business enterprise can receive from the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Optus Bank was selected because of its commitment to closing the racial wealth gap,

exacerbated by systemic disparities in the financial industry. Following in the footsteps of Victory Savings Bank, the first Black-owned bank in South Carolina, Optus is committed to providing access to capital to individuals and businesses excluded from the banking system. By turning deposits from community members into loans that serve local businesses, Optus provides funding for enterprises that may not be approved for traditional loans. Their unique community driven mission has allowed them to achieve great success while helping scores of minority-owned enterprises succeed in South Carolina.

Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in celebrating Optus Bank and their unwavering commitment to serving communities and people in need. Their actions should serve as an example to other organizations dedicated to positively impacting the communities they operate in. South Carolina is more prosperous because of the efforts of Optus Bank and I wish them continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF ROBERT H. LIPP

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, today I am honored to recognize the life of a quintessential West Side of Buffalo resident, Robert Lipp. Often referred to as "The Mayor of Fifteenth Street," Robert left an indelible mark on a community that will be mourning his loss for a long time to come.

Born in 1965, Robert graduated from Maryvale High School in Cheektowaga, and Bryant & Stratton College in Buffalo, where he obtained a degree in Electronic Technology. A longtime employee with the New York State Thruway Authority, an on-the-job accident meant that Robert entered retirement earlier than he had planned. Instead of approaching this situation with negativity, Robert began to dive into some of his passions. As a man that understood the value of community and neighborhoods, he would plant flowers each year for Buffalo's annual Garden Walk. Robert did not simply hope that someone would take steps to beautify the West Side of Buffalo; he did it. Whether it result from confrontation of absentee landlords or fixing the electrical issues of his neighbors, there was no limit to the level of love that Robert displayed for the City of Buffalo.

Of course, Robert enjoyed many other activities, as well. He loved to camp, go to concerts and weddings, and (in typical Buffalo fashion) watch his beloved Bills and Sabres. He spent time with his many dogs, sought to make each year's Garden Walk better than the last, and served as a dedicated member of the Democratic Committee.

Survived by his husband, Bobby Graber, and countless loving family members, Robert's sudden passing will undoubtedly be difficult to endure. Nevertheless, to all of those who knew and loved Robert, his legacy will remain. Robert served as a model citizen in so many ways, and our community will forever be a better place because of him.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF MRS. CINDY CASTELLO

HON. BARRY LOUDERMILK

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Cindy Castello for the vital role she has played in the development of Cherokee County, Georgia as a stronghold of conservative values.

Cindy and her husband, Pete, have been friends of my family for many years. We have witnessed her character and dedication to our shared cause in all of her numerous roles as a community servant. As a dedicated leader, Cindy has been instrumental in recruiting and developing many community activists to become public servants and run for public office. She has utilized her extensive network of relationships and years of experience within the Georgia Republican Party, the 11th Congressional District, and the Cherokee County Republican Party to lay a foundation which will impact Cherokee County for years to come.

She has devoted countless hours volunteering her time, talents, and energy to serve eleven years on the Zoning Board of Appeals; and, during her eighteen years of service on the Tax Equalization Board, she played a vital role for Cherokee County in steering the future of the county by applying commonsense conservative values.

In her thirty-three years of dedicated service on the Cherokee County Board of Elections, Cindy has helped to set a standard of excellence, and helped develop the Board into one of Georgia's finest and most innovative entities.

She has provided invaluable support and has been instrumental in the development of the Cherokee County Republican Party for the past forty years. She exemplifies the very best of public service and is truly an inspiration to so many. It is abundantly fitting and proper that Cindy's dedication to the cause of faith, family, and freedom be appropriately recognized in the U.S. House of Representatives.

On behalf of the citizens of Cherokee County, Georgia's 11th Congressional District, and myself and my family, I offer my sincere appreciation to Mrs. Cindy Castello for her decades of faithful public service to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF SAMANTHA WOLL

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, it is with profound grief that I pay tribute to the life of a passionate advocate, a dedicated former Congressional staff member, an organizer, and a true believer in interfaith dialogue, Samantha Woll. Sam had a brilliant mind, a generous spirit, and was a true light in the community. While we do not yet know the circumstances of her death, we do know how she lived, so today I ask that we remember the profound impact she had on her community, our state, and the Nation in her short time on this earth.

Sam worked for me from nearly the moment I became a Congresswoman—helping us set up the Lansing office in 2019 and helping to lead it for my full first term as Team Slotkin’s Deputy District Director. Like everyone who met her, I was immediately struck by her kindness, her sharp mind, and her ever-present smile. Though she was young, Sam came to our team already well-established, having worked for multiple members of the state legislature, as well as many different causes close to her heart. She would go on to work for Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel and State Senator Stephanie Chang, among others.

I was also struck by her profound faith; not just her personal faith in Judaism, but her profound faith in humanity. Sam dedicated her time on my staff, and truly her entire life, to building understanding and bridges between people, and bringing light in the face of darkness. She helped establish our first interfaith roundtable and continued that work when she left our office, serving as president of the Isaac Agree Synagogue in Detroit where she was known for her outreach and dialogue with her Muslim and Christian neighbors. As the Detroit Jewish News noted in naming her one of the “36 Under 36” influential young people in the Jewish community, “By extending her hand and creating space for connection between Muslims and Jews, she has exemplified the values of healing the world.” She also played a vital role in the revitalization of Detroit, including the renovation and reopening of her historic synagogue just a few months ago. It is deeply painful that we have lost someone so dedicated to healing, and connecting so many people, no matter their background, to such a destructive act.

Sam’s senseless death has left a hole not just in our hearts but in the fabric of our community. She was a beacon of light and I ask that as we grieve her loss, we recommit ourselves to the principles by which she lived. Sam firmly believed in the power of government to do good: to lift people out of poverty, to give a voice to the voiceless, and to bring justice and equality to all. She was deeply committed to the idea that what united us as Americans and Michiganders was much more important than the ways some try to divide us. I send my deepest condolences to all who knew and loved her. May her memory be a blessing forever in our hearts.

RECOGNIZING CARLA SCRUGGS’
32+ YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE
CITY OF SALINE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize Carla Scruggs, the Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Saline, on the occasion of her retirement. Her contributions to the health and wellness of the Saline community over the last three decades are worthy of commendation.

Born and raised in Ann Arbor, MI, Carla graduated from Pioneer High School before attending Central Michigan University, where she spent four years on the softball team. After earning both her bachelor’s and master’s

degrees, she set out on a career in public service throughout Southeastern Michigan. In 1988, Carla began at the City of Hazel Park as a graduate intern specializing in senior programming and youth and adult sports. She then went to Novi, where she took on the position of Recreation Coordinator for the city’s Parks and Recreation Department. In 1991, Carla was brought on as the Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Saline, where she has been serving ever since.

Carla’s tenure at the head of the Saline Parks and Recreation Department has seen countless improvements to Saline’s green spaces. These include, but are certainly not limited to, the Recreate Our Mill Pond Park play structure, multiple dog parks, and the creation of Salt Springs Park. As well as being the Director, Carla also acts as the Staff Liaison to the Parks Commission and the Youth Council. She has been an active member for the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association for the entirety of her tenure and is currently the Chair of their Awards Committee. In her free time, Carla volunteers every year for the Punt Pass & Kick State Competition, Saline’s DARE golf outing, the PPSA golf outing, and the University of Michigan Softball Academy to raise awareness for breast cancer.

Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the 32+ years of public service that Carla Scruggs has been kind enough to dedicate her life to. She has given our children spaces to play, our dogs spaces to run, and altogether has made Saline a warmer and more welcoming place to live. Though we are sad to see her go, the families of Saline will be feeling her positive influence for decades to come. I thank Carla.

ALL VETERANS HONOR GUARD

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to honor the All Veterans Honor Guard, who provide the final Military Honors at Fort Logan National Cemetery in Colorado. Only those who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces are permitted to provide such services but in 1993, the U.S. Military ceased to perform these final rites for deceased veterans.

That’s why approximately 100 Colorado veterans formed the All Veterans Honor Guard in 1994 to carry on this sacred duty for their late comrades in arms. Aside from a small stipend from the state of Colorado, the organization receives no additional funding or compensation to maintain and repair the World War II-era weapons or to purchase uniforms for their volunteers.

During their first year, the All Veterans Honor Guard provided Military Honors for 63 veterans at Ft. Logan National Cemetery—and since 1994, they have stood as the Honor Guard for over 23,400 military funerals; with Chief Master Sergeant Retired Morris Smith serving as the backbone for over two decades. But as time has gone on, the number of requests for their services has grown as our aging veterans pass away. The number of volunteers, however, has diminished. In 2021, the All Veterans Honor Guard had less than

80 veteran volunteers, who provided the final honors for 1,554 veterans.

Despite these challenges, the Honor Guard remains as dedicated to serving their late brothers and sisters in their afterlife as they were in serving alongside them in life. That is why, Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, on behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Colorado, it is a distinct privilege to recognize and commemorate the tireless efforts of the All Veterans Honor Guard over the past 29 years. Our country is blessed to have such heroes who care enough to honor their comrades as they are laid to rest.

COMMEMORATING COOK COUNTY
BOARD’S “MEDICAL DEBT RELIEF INITIATIVE”

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I wish to recognize the transformative “Medical Debt Relief Initiative” in Cook County, Illinois which has successfully abolished \$281,338,840 of medical debt for Cook County residents. I applaud the tireless efforts of Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle and the Cook County Board to provide much needed relief to 158,541 residents. This innovative program, in partnership with the national nonprofit “RIP Medical Debt,” reallocated \$12 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds to provide invaluable relief to Cook County families, many of whom are living paycheck to paycheck.

Medical debt continues to be a crisis in our country. According to “RIP Medical Debt,” every day, 1 in 2 Americans must choose between paying medical bills and covering their basic needs. This is unacceptable. Thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act, more Americans have health insurance coverage now than ever before, but despite these historic strides, costs remain a barrier to accessing high-quality healthcare. Low and moderate-income American households continue to accrue medical debt and continue to be harmed by its financial and mental effects.

During a time of rising costs, Congress must do its part to assist working families. We must seek bipartisan solutions to reform our healthcare system because no one should be punished for becoming sick or receiving medical care. While we seek bipartisan policy solutions, partnerships across all levels of government should continue to facilitate medical debt relief. This relief, such as the “Medical Debt Relief Initiative” in Cook County, Illinois, has the power to give economic mobility to working families and boost our economy. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I extend immense gratitude to the Cook County Board, under the direction of Cook County President Toni Preckwinkle, for being a model for other jurisdictions across the country. I continue to seek opportunities to advance commonsense models like this one to address the medical debt crisis.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 100 YEARS OF THE BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU OF UPSTATE NEW YORK

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, today I am honored to recognize the Better Business Bureau of Upstate New York as they celebrate a century of dedicated service to our community. Headquartered in Amherst, NY, this organization, and their staff have undoubtedly had a lasting impact on countless constituents in Western New York.

Founded in 1923, the reach and growth of this chapter of the Better Business Bureau is nothing short of impressive. The eighth largest Better Business Bureau, it serves 6 million people across 48 counties in New York State. Due to their unwavering enthusiasm, BBB of Upstate New York closes 15,000 complaints annually while posting over 10,000 reviews. Throughout their long history, millions of service-oriented tasks have been completed in the name of consumer education and standards enforcement. Their mission is simple: provide consumers with resources to not only avoid dishonest business practices but offer remedies for those who have been wronged. Very importantly, all levels of government rely on BBB of Upstate New York to front-end this education of consumers. Federal, state, and local law enforcement have also been able to begin investigations (and ultimately prosecutions) of bad faith actors in our local marketplace. That type of responsibility is only given because the Better Business Bureau of Upstate New York has proven to be an honest broker for consumers.

Trust is at the very core of business, and it is only due to organizations like the Better Business Bureau of Upstate New York that consumers can approach matters with confidence. I applaud their century of work to better our community, and I wish them continued expansion and prosperity in aiding the men and women of our community.

RECOGNIZING DR. FRED LUTHER HAYNES

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Fred Luther Haynes, who passed away on September 2, 2023, and to thank him for his more than 40 years of dedicated service to the Bakersfield City School District. Dr. Haynes was born in Clarksville, Oklahoma to Harvey Haynes and Mable Haynes-Harvey. He was the eldest of five sons. At an early age, his mother instilled in him the value of education, which inspired him to become an educator. He attended college at Langston University in Oklahoma, where he received his bachelor of science degree in education. Dr. Haynes pursued his post-graduate studies at Fisk University in Tennessee, where he obtained his master's degree in education. Over the course of his

career, he earned additional credentials and teaching certificates at the California State University of Fresno and Bakersfield, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, and Dillard University. In 1977, Dr. Haynes attended Brigham Young University, where he received a doctorate in education.

In 1951, Dr. Haynes married Marcy Alice Williams in Tulsa, where they would start their family of eight children. Ten years later, he moved his family to Bakersfield, California, where he began his extensive teaching career in the Bakersfield City School District (BCSD). Dr. Haynes was first a teacher at Colonel Baker School before becoming the school's Assistant Principal. He later moved to the district office, where he worked as a Resource Teacher and became BCSD's first African American district-wide supervisor. During his time as supervisor, Dr. Haynes was focused on parental involvement, even creating the Parent Involvement and Community Relation Division to strengthen the relationship between students, parents, and teachers at BCSD. For 26 years, Dr. Haynes served as Principal across multiple BCSD elementary schools and at Emerson Jr. High School. Throughout his tenure as Principal, Dr. Haynes was dedicated to the achievement of all students and was instrumental in district-wide changes that supported underrepresented students.

In 1996, the Dr. Fred Haynes Award was established to honor the leadership, strength, and courage displayed by Dr. Haynes over the course of his career. Each year, the award is given to male students in the district who exhibit the qualities of Dr. Haynes in their academic pursuits. In 2016, Dr. Haynes was inducted into the BCSD's Hall of Fame, to honor him for his 40 years of exceptional service to the district. After his retirement, Dr. Haynes became a Board Member for BCSD, a position he held until 2020. As a member of the board, he continued to advocate for the well-being and success of students in the district.

Outside of the classroom, Dr. Haynes was passionate about the lives of members of the community. He was the author of African American Women Trailblazer, which celebrates the sacrifices and achievements of African American women in Kern County. He received several awards to honor his service, including awards from the NAACP, Boy Scouts of America, and the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the incredible life of Dr. Fred Luther Haynes. Dr. Haynes' lifetime of service as an educator in the Central Valley will be felt for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING SHAKOPEE BREWHALL AS ONE OF AMERICA'S TOP SMALL BUSINESSES

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to congratulate Shakopee Brewhall—Taproom & Coffeehouse as the Midwest regional finalist for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's America's Top Small Business Award.

Shakopee Brewhall was selected as one of seven finalists out of a total of over 15,000 small business applicants for the annual Top Small Business Award. At its inception in 2018, the brewhall operated modestly with a nine-member team, opening its doors for just 41 hours across five days each week. During that time, the team focused on brewing and, as demand grew, distributing its unique beers. Today, they employ 27 workers, with over half of the original staff still remaining on the team and have grown their customer base and expanded their offerings to include morning coffee and espresso over 86 hours every week.

I'm grateful for co-founders, Ryan Lindquist and Damon Schuler's role in the revitalization of downtown Shakopee by turning their historic space into Scott County's first taproom and coffeehouse. Their leadership of the brewhall showcased necessary innovation when pivoting to distribution during the pandemic and working with other local small businesses. I've also appreciated their "Share More Than A Beer Day," which creates awareness and financial support for partnering organizations and has led to more than \$50,000 in donations to local non-profits.

It was a special honor to join Shakopee Brewhall's Caitlin Drayna at the Chamber's Awards Gala on October 19th. It is my privilege to represent Shakopee Brewhall in Congress and I look forward to sharing a beer together soon.

RECOGNIZING THE 32ND ANNIVERSARY OF PARIS PEACE AGREEMENT

HON. LORI TRAHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Mrs. TRAHAN. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today in recognition of the 32nd Anniversary of the Paris Peace Agreement that ended the Cambodian-Vietnamese War. As the Chair of the Congressional Cambodia Caucus and the Representative of a district with one of the highest populations of Cambodian-Americans, I rise to honor the anniversary of the peace agreement and call on the United States to do everything possible to help Cambodia realize its full democratic potential.

This historic agreement ended a horrible war that stretched over three decades and caused the deaths of countless soldiers and civilians. One of the promises outlined in the accord was for free and fair elections. Unfortunately, that aspiration was never realized, and the current state of Cambodia's government personifies the challenges that remain to achieving a truly democratic nation.

For thirty-eight years, Cambodia was ruled with an iron grip by Prime Minister Hun Sen. The democratic promise of free and fair elections was shattered by his weaponization of government power. Over the years, Hun Sen took steps to eliminate his opposition, ban independent media outlets, and jail peaceful protesters. In depriving the Cambodian people of their human rights, Hun Sen moved Cambodia closer to an authoritarian state and robbed them of the representative government promised in their Constitution and the Paris Peace Agreement.

Earlier this year, Cambodia held a sham election that made a mockery of the democratic process. The prearranged result saw a landslide victory for Hun Sen who in turn announced an immediate transfer of power to his son, Hun Manet. Let me be clear, these most recent elections violated the Cambodian Constitution, a document that Hun Sen helped draft and signed three decades ago, and his unprecedented decision to unilaterally transfer power to his son indicates Cambodia will be subject to authoritarian rule for another generation.

As we recognize the 32nd anniversary of the Paris Peace Agreement, the Congressional Cambodia Caucus stands firmly against the rising tide of authoritarianism in Cambodia. We will not stand idly by while Hun Manet picks up where his father left off. Instead, we will continue to use every tool at our disposal to push for a free, democratic Cambodia. I am a proud co-lead of the Cambodian Democracy and Human Rights Act (H.R. 4659), legislation that promotes free and fair elections, democracy, political freedoms, and human rights in Cambodia by applying sanctions on Cam-

bodian officials who denigrate those rights. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Cambodian Caucus to pass this bill and with the Biden Administration to ensure that these sanctions are imposed effectively.

Passing the Cambodian Democracy and Human Rights Act will help ensure that the principles of the Paris Peace Agreement are upheld and that Cambodians can move closer to achieving the self-determination and dignity they deserve.