

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING DR. MICHAEL NORMAN

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD the following Proclamation in recognition and honor of Dr. Michael Norman, for his contributions to Christian Music and leadership at the 2024 State of the Church Summit, in Miami, Florida.

Whereas, Dr. Michael Norman, the second of five siblings, born in Orlando, Florida, to Carey and Mary Norman, has displayed exceptional talents and contributions throughout his life; and

Whereas, from the tender age of five, Michael exhibited prodigious skills in playing the piano, evolving into the primary church musician by the age of eight, laying the foundation for his future as a performer, orator, and proficient leader; and

Whereas, Michael's journey began as a gifted musician, attributing his musical prowess to his mother's prayers and divine intervention, turning away from potential pitfalls during the challenging times of the 80s; and

Whereas, his remarkable musical journey has culminated in numerous accolades, including multiple awards for Best New Artist, highlighting his ability to resonate with diverse audiences through the universal language of music; and

Whereas, Dr. Michael Norman is a native of Orlando, Florida, and, for the past 25 years, has been in a sacred union with Prophetess Francina Norman, demonstrating a commitment to marital bliss and spiritual partnership. Dr. Norman and Prophetess Francina Norman have traversed the globe, establishing churches, overseeing ministries, and providing valuable consultation to Pro Athletes, Celebrities, and Political figures, contributing to the betterment of societies both foreign and domestic; and

Whereas, Dr. Michael Norman, alongside his cherished wife Francina, serves as pastors of The Movement Church in Orlando, FL, demonstrating unwavering commitment to the spiritual growth and well-being of their community; and

Whereas, Dr. Michael Norman holds a Bachelor's degree in Biblical Studies and Pastoral Counseling, as well as an Honorary Doctorate from All Nations Christian University, attesting to his scholarly pursuits and commitment to expanding his knowledge for the betterment of others; and

Whereas, Dr. Michael Norman is the esteemed founder of MCN Productions International, a testament to his entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to excellence in the realms of recording artistry and production; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Frederica S. Wilson, a member of the United

States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, recognize Dr. Michael Norman's outstanding accomplishments, unwavering commitment to community, and his dedication to the betterment of individuals and relationships.

HONORING DANIEL EAGLE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Daniel Eagle, an officer with the Clearlake Police Department. I have named Mr. Eagle as a Public Safety Hero of the Year for Lake County in California's 4th District as a result of his extraordinary selflessness, dedication and service to others.

Mr. Eagle was born in Clearlake, California, and grew up in Lake County, California, graduating from Middletown High School in 2013. Mr. Eagle attended college in New Mexico where he obtained a bachelor's degree in criminal justice management.

From an early age, Mr. Eagle had the desire to become a police officer and to help our community. Today, at the Clearlake Police Department, Mr. Eagle serves as a police officer, field training officer and canine handler. Mr. Eagle has been with his canine partner, Zeus, for several years now. Mr. Eagle is also the president of the Police Officer Association and enjoys working with local leaders on community improvement projects.

Mr. Eagle has a passion for traffic enforcement and investigations. This includes infractions such as driving under the influence (DUI), stolen vehicles and traffic collisions. Mr. Eagle has conducted numerous DUI investigations which resulted in the prosecution of over 25 DUI arrests. For his selfless work, Mr. Eagle received an award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving in 2023. Mr. Eagle was also presented with the Law Enforcement and Prosecution Recognition award. Mr. Eagle's dedication to our community continues as he strives to address traffic-related issues within the city of Clearlake, making it a safer place to live, work and visit.

Outside of his service, Mr. Eagle enjoys playing golf with friends, restoring vehicles and participating in off-road activities. Mr. Eagle is proudly married to Taylor Eagle and is the father of a 2-year-old daughter named Brinley.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Mr. Eagle for his persistence, service and commitment to our community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

RECOGNIZING SALT LAKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S CROSS COUNTRY PROGRAM

HON. BURGESS OWENS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize the extraordinary achievements of the Salt Lake Community College Cross Country program, a testament to the dedication, hard work, and indomitable spirit of Utah's student-athletes. In just 18 short months since its inception, Salt Lake Community College's Cross Country program has soared to remarkable heights. The women's Cross-Country team achieved an outstanding 3rd place at the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Cross Country National Championship, securing victory at the 2023 Scenic West Championship.

Equally impressive, the men's team claimed the 8th spot nationally and conquered the 2023 Scenic West Championship. Unsurprisingly, 77 percent of the women athletes and 65 percent of the men's team hail from the great state of Utah, showcasing the program's commitment to nurturing local talent. On November 11, 2023, the men's team displayed their prowess as Runner-Ups at the NJCAA National Championship in Huntsville, Alabama, with JQ Harris, an SLCC runner, clinching the men's Individual Championship.

The women's Cross-Country team went even further, securing not one but two national championships. On November 11, 2023, they triumphed at the NJCAA National Championship in Huntsville, Alabama, and two days later, they emerged victorious at the Half Marathon National Championship. These victories marked a historic moment for SLCC, claiming their first national championships in women's sports. The college now boasts an impressive tally of five national championships across women's and men's sports.

Behind this success are the dedicated coaches and leaders I would like to recognize: Head Coach Isaac Wood, named the NJCAA National Coach of the Year for Cross-Country; Assistant Coaches Kelsey Gilbert, Aiden Carlson, Tom Gruenewald; and Athletic Director Kevin Dustin.

As a former athlete and Chair of the Higher Education and Workforce Development Subcommittee, I am proud of the Salt Lake Community College Cross Country program's remarkable achievements, embodying the true spirit of sportsmanship, resilience, and dedication. I thank them for their example as their continued success inspires aspiring athletes across Utah and beyond.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

HONORING DR. TRAGIL WADE-JOHNSON

HON. FEDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Tragil Wade-Johnson, a distinguished entrepreneur, philanthropist, inspirational speaker, life coach, and author.

Dr. Wade-Johnson has dedicated her life to the pursuit of improving the lives of others through education, empowerment, encouragement, and enlightenment. As the former caregiver and devoted sister to retired NBA Champion Dwyane Wade, her family's journey from tragedy to triumph inspired her to commit her life to supporting underprivileged youth. Dr. Wade-Johnson's passion for children led her to found America's Big Sisters Foundation which seeks to change the narrative for youth facing challenges similar to those she and her brother overcame.

Establishing America's Big Sisters Foundation in 2017 as a 501(c)3 organization, Dr. Wade-Johnson continues her mission to empower, encourage, and educate young ladies in underserved communities. The foundation's annual Empowerment Conference, uniting girls across backgrounds and providing strategies to overcome societal challenges, has grown exponentially, impacting the lives of thousands. With a city tour reaching multiple states, this visionary leader aspires to touch the lives of 2,500 girls in 2023 alone.

Dr. Wade-Johnson's educational achievements, including degrees in Early Childhood Education and Elementary Education, coupled with her certifications in ministry, leadership, and trauma-informed care, underscore her commitment to lifelong learning and personal development.

Her illustrious career path encompasses roles as a teacher, principal, and executive director, reflecting her diverse skill set and dedication to shaping young minds. Notably, as the Executive Director of Wade's World Foundation from 2006 to 2017, she led the organization in raising more than \$3.4 million and garnered numerous awards. Recognitions such as the BET Humanitarian Award, Woman of Excellence, and the Dr. Rita Marley Ambassador Award underscore her impactful presence in the philanthropic landscape.

Dr. Tragil Wade-Johnson's dedication to positive change and her unwavering commitment to uplifting the next generation epitomizes the transformative power of education, resilience, and compassionate leadership, inspiring us all to strive for a better future.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Dr. Tragil Wade-Johnson for all she has achieved, and for her commitment, dedication and service to our community.

RECOGNIZING MS. AMY CHAVERS BOWDEN, OKALOOSA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Okaloosa County School District

Teacher of the Year. Ms. Amy Chavers Bowden, for her exceptional efforts in advancing youth education and dedication to positively impacting the lives of countless students at Antioch Elementary School.

A fourth-grade teacher, Ms. Bowden's reputation precedes her as a woman of motivation, kindness, inspiration, and most of all, an unwavering commitment to the betterment of her students. Her leadership with the Hope Squad, Drone Team, and Young Astronauts Club exemplifies her message that all children are capable of achieving success. Each Monday, the scent of freshly made hot chocolate fills her classroom as her students each contribute to their class newspaper, demonstrating elementary comradery made possible through a teacher who serves as a role model and leads by example. Ms. Bowden's aspiration to evoke joy in her students makes her beloved by her students.

I am proud to know that so many children in my district have had the opportunity to have been taught by Ms. Bowden. Her stated mission to change the world has certainly been achieved and her lessons of leadership are sure to remain through many generations to come. It is for these reasons that I congratulate her on this well-deserved recognition.

HONORING CAPTAIN CHRISSY VALADEZ

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chrissy Valadez, a paramedic and fire captain with the Northshore Fire Protection. I have named Ms. Valadez as Public Safety Heroes of the Year from Lake County in California's 4th District because of her extraordinary selflessness, dedication and service to others.

Ms. Valadez was born in Klamath Falls, Oregon, to Robert and Tina Allen. She attended Mendocino College Fire Academy and Paramedic program and earned her associate degree in emergency management from Coastline College in Costa Mesa, California. Ms. Valadez began her career in 2003 with Lucerne Fire Department which consolidated and formed Northshore Fire Protection District in 2006. She has served as Northshore Fire Protection District's EMS Liaison since 2007. She is also a part of the Lake County Emergency Medical Care Committee and has been a Field Training Officer precepting paramedic interns since 2008. Having worked for nearly 21 years in Lake County, she has assisted in many of the major wildfires, including the 2018 Ranch Fire that devastated our community.

Ms. Valadez has been serving her community for over two decades. She teaches CPR to a wide range of community members including high school students and school staff. She's also been educating community and tribal organizations on Narcan administration, tackling the opioid crisis head-on. As the driving force behind the Every-15-Minutes program at Upper Lake High School, she has been helping students understand the dangers of driving under the influence. Ms. Valadez is currently finishing her bachelor's degree in science education with an end goal of teach-

ing health science and emergency medical services (EMS) to high school students.

Three years ago, Ms. Valadez started working on a new passion in her spare time. She serves as a Regional Advisor for International Student Exchange, facilitating and supporting high school students in Lake and Mendocino Counties who are studying abroad in the United States for a cultural exchange experience. She is a local point of contact for any inquiries and emergencies, ensuring that the students have a positive and enriching experience while adjusting to life in a new culture. Ms. Valadez also organizes events and activities to promote cultural exchange and community integration to better connect international students and their host communities.

When she is not on duty, Ms. Valadez enjoys spending time with her husband, Ronnie, and three daughters, Regan (14), Charlotte (9) and Clara (2). Her crew members at the firehouse describe her as a dedicated worker who does her best to provide solutions even in the most stressful of times. She is a wonderful daughter, a caring sister, an amazing mother and a loving wife, and our community is grateful for her hard work and service.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Ms. Valadez for her persistence, service and commitment to our community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

HONORING LEE CAPLIN

HON. FEDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Lee Caplin, a businessman and philanthropist.

As an attorney, entrepreneur, and educator, Mr. Caplin's contributions span over 25 years, including co-founding Penske Media and serving as the Special Assistant Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. With a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Duke University and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Virginia Law School, Mr. Caplin has been an influential figure in various fields, embodying a commitment to education, innovation, and the arts.

Mr. Lee Caplin generously donated \$10 million to Florida International University College of Communication, Architecture + The Arts (CARTA) to establish the CARTA Lee Caplin School of Journalism & Media, marking one of the most substantial contributions to a journalism and media program in the history of the State University System of Florida.

The donation will empower a multitude of initiatives to support students, encompassing the strengthening of the curriculum, faculty, and professional staff to ensure graduates are well-prepared for interdisciplinary, high-demand professions. Additionally, it will involve the enhancement of the renowned South Florida Media Network, now rebranded as Caplin News, providing immersive professional learning experiences with news bureaus in Miami and Washington, D.C. The initiative extends to the development of engaging and inclusive coursework, fostering an experiential "learn by doing" teaching philosophy and equipping students with essential skills to combat misinformation and disinformation. Furthermore, it

aims at establishing a diverse and accomplished faculty of practitioners and scholars, providing instruction in the use of industry-standard equipment, software, and the latest immersive technologies. The donation will also contribute to capital improvements in facilities and equipment to create state-of-the-art learning spaces, along with offering student scholarships and financial assistance.

This significant gift reinforces the Caplin School's dedication to inclusivity, with 86 percent of students identifying as minorities, and its commitment to providing access to excellence, fostering "techquity," and preparing proficient, multilingual professionals in journalism, digital media, animation, broadcast media, and film (proficient in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole).

Lee Caplin, Founder and Chairman of Picture Entertainment Corporation, has a prominent role in the multimedia and telecommunications industry, serving as the Executive Producer of the Academy Award-nominated film "Ali" and leading initiatives such as the Immersive Studio for Altered Reality (iStar) at Florida International University.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Mr. Lee Caplin for all he has achieved, and for his commitment, dedication and service to our community.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Holocaust Learning Experience, hosted by MorseLife in my Congressional District. This year, International Holocaust Remembrance Day marks 79 years since the liberation of the Nazi death camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau by the Red Army and Allied troops. On January 27, 2024, the United Nations General Assembly officially reminded the world of the 6 million Jewish victims of the Holocaust and the millions of other victims of Nazi persecution. We should never forget the atrocities of the Holocaust. At liberation, allies witnessed the devastation of human remains and the destruction of the human spirit. This is the day we also acknowledge the multigenerational impact of the horror and terror perpetrated against innocent women, men and children.

Globally, we are witnessing an alarming rise in antisemitism, and it is more important than ever to recognize the critical lessons from the Holocaust. I am proud to recognize the Holocaust Learning Experience, to continue to develop, deploy and deliver Holocaust education to public schools. Last year, the Holocaust Learning Experience was awarded seed funding from the state of Florida to cast the education statewide, scalable, and the Holocaust Learning Experience is poised to be in the 67 school districts, impacting approximately 2.1 million students.

I wish to congratulate and encourage the Holocaust Learning Experience to continue changing lives of our nation's young people. Each day, the Experience teaches students to stand up, not stand by.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend votes. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 363; NAY on Roll Call No. 637; NAY on Roll Call No. 636; and NAY on Roll Call No. 648.

HONORING ANDREW TOMELLOSO

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Andrew Tomelloso, a fire captain with the Dixon Fire Department. I have named Mr. Tomelloso as a Public Safety Hero of the Year for Solano County in California's 4th District as a result of his extraordinary selflessness, dedication and service to others.

Mr. Tomelloso was born in Vallejo, California and grew up in Dixon, California where he earned his high school diploma. Since then, Mr. Tomelloso has completed the National College of Technical Instruction Paramedic Program, the State Fire Marshal Company Officer Program and is a certified California Specialized Training Institute Hazmat Technician. He is currently enrolled at Columbia Southern University to complete an AS/BS degree. Mr. Tomelloso is the proud father of 15-year-old Owen Tomelloso and 14-year-old Marina Tomelloso.

Mr. Tomelloso began his career assisting emergency room patients, until he joined the Dixon Fire Department in February 2014 where he has since been serving as a firefighter and paramedic. Mr. Tomelloso's calm demeanor and approachability within the Dixon Fire Department makes him a valued leader and a respected colleague. As a newly promoted captain he is playing an essential role in helping make the department stronger, more resilient and more capable. Mr. Tomelloso is the Dixon Professional Firefighters Association (DPFA) Local 4665 Vice President, the grant committee chair, the Dixon Fire Department public education lead and a Solano County Hazmat team member as well as being the Solano County Rotary Firefighter of the Year for both the years of 2017 and 2020.

As a captain and paramedic, Mr. Tomelloso is tasked with public education within the fire department. He demonstrates incredible willingness to contribute and respond to the needs of our community in fire safety, adult and youth education programs and CPR training. Mr. Tomelloso's dedication to the Dixon Fire Department and our community has resulted in top caliber public education that improves the lives and wellbeing of our citizens.

Mr. Tomelloso is a standup citizen working with the community CPR program and contributing to public outreach events such as school festivals, Dixon May Fair, fire prevention week and senior resource fairs. Additionally, he was a member of the Solano County Urban Search and Rescue Team and the former president of the Dixon Firefighters Charitable Fund. Cur-

rently Mr. Tomelloso serves as the lead chair for both the Dixon Fire Department CPR program and DPFA annual Santa run.

From school programs to Fire Prevention Week events, to presentations with homeowner groups, to coordinating the Santa Run during the holidays to spread a bit of joy, his professionalism and dedication to making our community a smarter and safer place goes far and above the call of duty.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Mr. Tomelloso for his persistence, service, and commitment to our community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING RICHARD CUFF

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Richard Cuff, a businessman, philanthropist, and friend.

Born and raised in Miami, the vibrant city within Florida's 24th Congressional District, Richard Cuff brought with him a wealth of experiences and a deep-rooted sense of community when he relocated to Jacksonville. His journey from the heart of Miami to becoming an integral part of the Jacksonville community reflects the interconnectedness of our great state. His commitment to bridging the gap between communities, fostering inclusivity, and celebrating diversity is a testament to the values instilled in him from his early days in Miami, the place he still calls home.

Richard Cuff, a dedicated and compassionate resident of Florida, has significantly contributed to the lively fabric of our community. Richard has selflessly devoted his time to enriching the lives of underprivileged youth through the art of music, sharing his passion and skill by teaching violin lessons through his Guiding Success Program. His comedic talents have not only brought joy and laughter to many but also served as a testament to his versatile and creative spirit. Richard's commitment to civic engagement has been demonstrated through his candidacy for public office, showcasing his unwavering dedication to making positive changes within local government.

Richard Cuff's influence extends beyond the realms of music, comedy, and politics. His fervent dedication to community service is evident through his leadership in various local initiatives. From spearheading neighborhood clean-up projects to organizing charity events, Richard consistently demonstrates a profound commitment to the well-being of our community.

In the realm of education, Richard has not only shared his musical expertise but has also actively engaged in promoting literacy and learning. His involvement in literacy programs for children and adults alike underscores his belief in the transformative power of knowledge and the importance of fostering a culture of lifelong learning.

As a staunch advocate for social justice, Richard has fearlessly addressed issues of inequality and worked towards building bridges between communities. His efforts to foster understanding and unity have not only resonated locally but have also inspired others to join the

cause of creating a more inclusive and compassionate society.

Richard is founder of the Cora Lee Cuff Fund, named for his late mother, founder of NASEMBA Business Alliance, and C.E.O. of ConcinTel, LLC. He serves as Executive Director of League of Florida Orchestras, Inc., a capacity-building nonprofit organization.

In acknowledgment of these accomplishments and the countless other ways Richard Cuff has enriched the lives of our residents, we celebrate not only his birthday but also the indelible mark he has left on our community. Happy Birthday to Richard, and I thank him for being an exemplary force for positive change.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Mr. Richard Cuff for all he has achieved, and for his commitment, dedication and service to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LIZZIE FLETCHER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, on December 6, 2023 I missed votes due to an illness. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 702 and NAY on Roll Call No. 703.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF DR. JOHN BROOKS SLAUGHTER, FORMER CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AND DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of Dr. John Brooks Slaughter—a towering figure in academia and the science community in America. He passed away last month at the age of 89.

Some will remember John as the gifted engineer who devoted the first 15 years of his career to supporting the crucial work at the U.S. Navy Electronics Laboratory as a civilian employee. Later, he became the director of the Applied Physics Laboratory at the University of Washington, and assistant director for Astronomics, Atmospheric, Earth, and Ocean Sciences at the National Science Foundation (NSF).

Others will remember John for his leadership in academia and the sciences—especially after President Jimmy Carter selected him to serve as the sixth Director of the NSF in 1980. He excelled in that position during his two years, advocating for greater investment in science education, including at minority-serving institutions.

In Maryland, we will remember John as the man who transformed the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) for the better as its Chancellor between 1982 and 1988—the first Black American to hold the position. He made our university more efficient, inclusive, diverse, collaborative, and prosperous. John was beloved by UMD's students, faculty, and staff

alike. The same was true at Occidental College, where John served as President between 1989 and 1999, and at the University of Southern California, where John was appointed the Melbo Professor of Leadership in Education in 1999.

I'm sure John's wife Bernice, their two children Jacqueline and John, and the rest of his relatives will remember him as a devoted family man.

No matter who we are or how we knew John, however, we will remember him as a man of high intellect, great character, and unwavering devotion to serving others. For that, he has the gratitude of this Congress and this country. I hope all my colleagues will join me in mourning him and praying for his family.

HONORING SHIRLEY GIBSON

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Shirley Gibson, a mother, public servant, and friend.

Shirley Gibson, hailing from Camilla, Georgia, was the eldest among six siblings. Her family's journey took them from Camilla to the Florida Keys when she was just 10 years old. Subsequently, they relocated to Miami's Liberty City neighborhood before finally settling in Carol City, now known as Miami Gardens—the largest predominantly Black community in South Florida, which she led the charge in the city's creation.

Shirley Gibson's remarkable journey in public service began as a Miami-Dade police officer before she served as Miami Gardens' mayor from the city's establishment. Her dedicated public service extended from the city's inception in 2003 until 2012 at the conclusion of her second term as mayor. During her tenure, Mayor Gibson displayed unwavering commitment to fostering civic pride.

Mayor Gibson established a benchmark for leadership in the newly formed municipality. A trailblazer and visionary, she foresaw the potential for growth, prosperity, and unity within the community. Her leadership was characterized by an enduring commitment to inclusivity, equity, and transparency. Under Mayor Gibson's guidance, Miami Gardens thrived. Her policies and initiatives were centered on enhancing the residents' quality of life, driving economic progress, and fortifying public safety. She championed the people, advocating for improved education, upgraded infrastructure, and the strengthening of community bonds.

Mayor Shirley Gibson's legacy transcends administrative and political spheres. She was deeply devoted to building bridges between diverse communities, fostering an environment of unity and harmony. Her remarkable ability to connect with individuals from all walks of life undoubtedly contributed to her leadership success. She demonstrated a sincere concern for the welfare of her constituents, tirelessly working to enhance their lives in every conceivable manner. Her accomplishments reflected her dedication to crafting a flourishing, inclusive, and vibrant Miami Gardens. In early 2023, her pride in the city was evident as she beamed during the celebration that marked the city's 20th anniversary.

Shirley Gibson was a proud alumna of St. Thomas University, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice in 1981 and a Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministries in 2023. Her remarkable contributions were further recognized when, in 2013, she was conferred with an honorary Doctorate from the University.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the late Shirley Gibson for all she has achieved, and for her commitment, dedication and service to our community.

RECOGNIZING MOBILE COCA-COLA BOTTLING COMPANY AS RECIPIENT OF THE IMPACT AWARD

HON. JERRY L. CARL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. CARL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Mobile Coca-Cola Bottling Company as recipient of the Impact Award. The Impact Award recognizes a company that is dedicated to making their community a better place. Mobile Coca-Cola Bottling Company is a sales, distribution, and production center of Coca-Cola Bottling Company United, Inc. (UNITED). Mobile Coca-Cola UNITED is engaged in the production, marketing, and distribution of a diverse portfolio of sparkling and still products, non-alcoholic brands under exclusive franchise agreements principally with The Coca-Cola Company. For more than 120 years, Coca-Cola UNITED has remained true to its foundational core values of Quality, Excellence, Integrity, and Respect. Local relationships, personalized customer service and strong community engagement have been the foundation of this business for more than a century and continue to be strong today. Coca Cola has been impactful in this community for over 100 years. They have been building strong relationships, engaging volunteers, and providing financial and in-kind support to organizations, institutions and programs that make a positive impact in our local communities. Coca-Cola UNITED focuses its philanthropy in key strategic areas: education and youth development; empowerment; the well-being of local communities and stewardship of the environment. Just this past year they have donated to local food banks, Christmas Give Backs, First Responder recognition, Annual corporate events, community outreach like Kids Day 2023. Coca Cola has survived a true test of time for a business model in our community for over a century. This is truly evidence of sustainability for jobs, community outreach as well as community improvements through their philanthropy and outreach. They are great partners and supporters of the SWMC Chamber.

RECOGNIZING THE HERRIMAN HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

HON. BURGESS OWENS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I am thrilled to recognize the extraordinary achievements of

the Herriman High School Varsity Boys Cross Country Team, who recently made history as the first Utah team ever to win the first-place title at the Nike Cross Nationals in Portland, Oregon.

These talented young men were among 22 seven-person clubs in addition to 50 male and female individuals who competed for the coveted Winged Goddess of Victory championship trophy. Going into Nationals, the Herriman High Varsity Boys Cross Country Team was ranked 4th among the teams competing. Overcoming adversity and from behind, the team is now bringing the championship home.

Their victory marks a historic moment for the Jordan School District and the entire State of Utah. I would also like to recognize the dedicated coaches and leaders who believe in and support this remarkable team: Coach Doug Soles, Athletic Directors Brad Tingey and Laurel Bigler, Principal Todd Quarnberg, and Superintendent Anthony Godfrey.

As a former athlete and Chair of the Higher Education and Workforce Development Subcommittee. I am immensely proud of the Herriman High School Varsity Boys Cross Country Team, their coaches, parents, and supporters. I wish them continued success in both athletics and academics and look forward to seeing more championships brought back home to Utah.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, on January 29, 2024, I did not vote on Roll Call votes 20 and 21 as my flight was significantly delayed. Had I been present I would have voted: AYE on Roll Call No. 20, H.R. 5528, the Safe and Smart Federal Purchasing Act; and AYE on Roll Call No. 21, S. 3427, the Overtime Pay for Protective Services Act.

CELEBRATING NISHNA PRODUCTIONS' 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Nishna Productions on their 50th anniversary of providing tremendous community support and opportunity to individuals with disabilities in Southwest Iowa.

What began as a humble operation in 1974 has continued to grow in size and scope over the last five decades. Today, the committed staff at Nishna Productions assist individuals with disabilities along the path to being as independent as possible in their communities by providing them with opportunities to gain vocational skills training, community involvement, and socialization as well as the resources to find and maintain employment.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Nishna Productions for this incredible milestone. I specifically want to recognize their incredible staff for selflessly working to better

the lives of others. Their dedication has not only touched the lives of countless individuals and their families but serves as an inspiration to us all.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF MR. SANDERS ALEXANDER MARSHALL, JR.

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the extraordinary life of Sanders Alexander Marshall, Jr. He was a pharmacist, community leader, and a staunch advocate for the integration of public places in Fort Worth.

Sanders was a Fort Worth native who had both a deep love of country and giving back to the community. He graduated from I.M. Terrell High School in 1951 and immediately enlisted in the United States Air Force to serve honorably for four years overseas in the Korean War. After completing his military service, he returned to Fort Worth for a few years before enrolling at Texas Southern University in Houston to pursue his passion for helping people through being a pharmacist.

Sanders went on to become a civil rights trailblazer in North Texas. He broke barriers in hiring practices by becoming the first black pharmacist to serve non-black customers in Fort Worth. Among his many accomplishments, he was recognized as a Pioneer in North Texas Pharmacy by the University of North Texas System College of Pharmacy. He went on to serve his community for multiple decades, and even after retirement, he continued giving back by mentoring many other young pharmacists.

He was also a man of faith. He was baptized at an early age and was a life servant of the Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in Fort Worth, where he served as a deacon and head of the Brotherhood for over 50 years. Most importantly, he was a devoted family man.

Sanders will forever be remembered for his commitment to justice and the love he shared with his family and community. My prayers are with his loved ones and with the countless community members whose lives he profoundly impacted.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. McHENRY. Mr. Speaker, due to an unforeseen circumstance, I was unable to cast my vote for S. 3427. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 21.

HONORING J.C. GREENBERG

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John (J.C.) Greenberg, a

Battalion Chief with CAL FIRE's Sonoma-Lake Napa Unit. I have named Mr. Greenberg as a Public Safety Hero of the Year for Napa County in California's 4th District as a result of his extraordinary selflessness, dedication, and service to others.

Mr. Greenberg was born and grew up in Vallejo, California. He earned an associate degree in Fire Science Technology from Santa Rosa Junior College. Mr. Greenberg also achieved Bachelor of Science degrees in Business Administration and Financial Management from California State University, Chico.

Mr. Greenberg has dedicated much of his life to protecting our community from fire danger, working as a member of the Napa County Fire Department since the year 2000. In 2019, he became a member of the Napa Firewise Foundation (NCF) Board of Directors which maps out Napa County's wildfire risks to public lives, residential communities, critical infrastructures, habitat protection and protection of the economies of tourism and agriculture. Mr. Greenberg is the operations branch director of CAL FIRE Incident Management Team 5 and a helitack crew member with the CAL FIRE Aviation Program. Over the past four years Mr. Greenberg has spearheaded efforts made by Napa Firewise and CalFire to reduce wildland fire impacts via pre-fire fuel reduction. These projects protect the public along evacuation routes, enhance defensible space among community sub-divisions of residential structures, re-establish historical dozer lines for containment of future wildland fires and manage our rural lands utilizing prescribed fires and grazing.

On July 5, 2023, a vegetation fire threatened multiple residents and Silverado Middle School in the Coombsville area of Napa County. This fire started during peak hours at 1:35 pm and was influenced by a 13-mph wind on a grassy slope surrounded by residential homes. Led by Mr. Greenberg, the City of Napa Fire Department, CAL FIRE and the Napa County Fire Department quickly defended the structures under threat and provided perimeter control from further fire growth. This response demonstrated the effectiveness of strong cooperative relations among centralized emergency responders and Mr. Greenberg's quick and effective leadership certainly prevented further damage to our community.

Mr. Greenberg is married to Natalie Greenberg and the two reside in Napa County with their two boys, 13-year-old Andrew Greenberg and 10-year-old Grant Greenberg.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Mr. Greenberg for his persistence, service and commitment to our community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MRS. ALMEDA LEE STANFIELD

HON. AMI BERA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Almeda Lee Stanfield who celebrated her 100th birthday on December 16, 2023. Mrs. Stanfield is a proud mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother, and leads a life of great service and care for her community.

Almeda was born in Ferguson, Arkansas, grew up in Rochester, New York, and settled in Sacramento County in 1967. She is known to be a caring friend, neighbor, church leader, and civic volunteer, and her loving presence is known to be unmistakable in her community. Sacramento is lucky to have someone with such incredible dedication, sacrifice, and service to our county.

Almeda's life of service and dedication is commendable and worthy of recognition. I want to extend both my gratitude and my best wishes to Mrs. Stanfield for her lifelong commitment to Sacramento and the entire Nation. Her commitment and care for those around her is highly remarkable. I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating Mrs. Stanfield's outstanding life's work and wishing her a very happy 100th birthday.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCARELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. PASCARELL. Mr. Speaker, on January 29, 2024, I missed two roll call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: Yes on Roll Call No. 20, On motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 5528; and Yes on Roll Call No.

21, On motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 3427.

HONORING CLARKSBURG FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Clarksburg Fire Protection District. I have named them as Public Safety Heroes of the Year from Yolo County in California's 4th District because of their extraordinary selflessness, dedication, and service to others.

The Clarksburg Fire Protection District is an all-volunteer organization that has provided fire protection to the community of Clarksburg and the surrounding area for the past 78 years. Currently, the fire protection district has 23 trained volunteers who respond to fires, medical emergencies, vehicle accidents, and public service calls. The fire district has proven its effectiveness by responding to multiple emergency calls simultaneously, up to five at one time, without calling for aid from other agencies.

As the only chartered division of government in the Clarksburg township, the fire district has led numerous community events to

organize discussions about the needs of the area. 90 percent of the fire district's volunteers live in the community creating a "neighbors helping neighbors" dynamic in many of the emergency responses. The volunteer firefighters are also very active in other aspects of our community and support numerous charitable and civic organizations.

As evidence of their importance to our community, in the end of 2022, extreme wind and weather events left Clarksburg without power and operational wells for days. The fire district responded by delivering water to the community for sanitation and opening the fire station as an emergency depot and warming station. Another instance of service came in recent years when a fire threatened Clarksburg. Within two minutes, firefighters were on the scene and suppressing the fire, beating the National Fire Protection Association rural response time standards by a wide margin.

Along with serving Clarksburg, the fire district participates in several mutual aid and automatic aid agreements with neighboring districts, neighboring departments, the county of Yolo, the state of California, and some federal agencies.

Mr. Speaker, we thank the Clarksburg Fire Protection District for their persistence, service, and commitment to our community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor them here today.