

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LEADERSHIP AND LEGACY OF SERGEANT IAN G. TAYLOR

HON. LORI TRAHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mrs. TRAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the tremendous contributions and legacy of Sergeant Ian Taylor, a respected law enforcement officer and community leader who dedicated his life to public service. He tragically passed away in the line of duty on April 26, 2024.

Ian was born in Methuen, MA, in 1974 to Wayne Taylor and Sandy Crane. His parents raised him and his three brothers, Danny, Zack, and Cameron to always be kind and respectful, and instilled in them a sense of community. In 1997, Ian married the love of his life, Mindy. Together, they raised their two children, Nathan and Kylee, who they taught the values of family and community that Ian treasured so dearly.

Ian's dedication to law enforcement began by watching his father who proudly worked as a police officer for the City of Lawrence. Ian would eagerly follow in his father's footsteps by joining the Lawrence Police Department in 2003. He continued his career briefly with the Wilmington Police Department and ultimately landed at the Billerica Police Department, where Sergeant Taylor served for 12 years until his passing.

As a Detective for the Billerica Police Department, much of his time was spent assigned to a federal drug taskforce. Ian's dedication to assisting those struggling with substance abuse was evident through his tireless efforts with the Billerica Substance Awareness Prevention Committee, where he served as a leading member. Throughout his life, Ian was the recipient of numerous recognitions for his heroics in our community. Most notably he received a Medal of Commendation from the Watertown Fire Department for his bravery and lifesaving efforts at the scene of an accident in 2018.

Beyond his professional achievements, Ian was known to all for his kind disposition, ever-present grin, and the love he shared for his family and his community. He was always willing to lend a helping hand to someone in need or use his sharp wit and sense of humor to raise the spirits of those around him. One of his greatest achievements was the ability to always put a smile on his wife and children's faces. He was involved in every aspect of their lives, always present at extracurriculars to cheer on Nathan and Kylee, and eager to enjoy life's simple moments together. He was happiest with them by his side and took on the job of their role model and protector with the utmost pride.

Ian was known for his love of his family and friends, the kindness he showed to those around him, and his profound commitment to creating and inspiring positive change. His leg-

acy is one that will be unforgettable and everlasting in our Commonwealth. My heart goes out to Mindy, Kylee, Nathan, and the entire Taylor family during this difficult time. Ian's legacy will live on through his loving family and all who had the honor of knowing him.

TRIBUTE TO PASTOR GEORGE PHILLIP WINDLEY, SR.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a trusted leader, pillar of our community, and beloved friend. Pastor George Phillip Windley, Sr. transitioned from this life on Friday, May 17, 2024. Though he may no longer walk among us, his spirit will forever live on in the hearts of those who had the privilege of knowing him.

Pastor Windley was born on July 23, 1949, in Horry County, South Carolina to George William Windley and Annie Bell Moore Windley. A graduate of Horry County public schools and Whitemore High School, he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree and a Bachelor of Divinity from Morris College in Sumter, South Carolina. He furthered his spiritual education at Colgate Divinity School in Rochester, New York, and would go on to complete five units of Clinical Pastoral education throughout his career and receive an Honorary Doctor of Divinity from Morris College.

Pastor Windley's journey to service led him to serve in the United States Navy during the Vietnam conflict from 1969 to 1971. He fulfilled his calling to the ministry in 1978 and began preaching at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, where he would serve as Reverend for 43 years. The impact of Pastor Windley's dedication to preaching the Good Word reverberated throughout our state, inspiring generations of South Carolinians.

Moreover, Pastor Windley's legacy extends far beyond the pulpit. He served as founder and President of the Clarendon County Ministerial Alliance, a member of the Baptist E&M Convention and National Baptist Convention, and an instructor for the S.C. Baptist Congress of Christian Education and Morris College School of Religion. Pastor Windley also served as the first African American senior chaplain with the South Carolina Department of Corrections, exemplifying his leadership and compassion in challenging environments.

Throughout his illustrious career, Pastor Windley not only served as a shepherd of souls but also as a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. Pastor Windley married the former Linda Galloway. They are the humble parents of three children, Reverend George P. Windley, Jr., Pastor of First Baptist Missionary Church; Dr. Belinda W. McCoy; and Mark Anthony Windley. They were also blessed with several grandchildren. His family stands as a testament to his values and priorities, embody-

ing the love and strength that characterized his ministry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in remembering the life of Pastor George Phillip Windley, Sr. May his family and loved ones find comfort in the knowledge that his legacy will endure, and may they be granted the Lord's richest blessings in the days ahead.

CELEBRATING THE OLDEST LIVING GIRL SCOUT, LENORE "GUNDY" COSTELLO

HON. SCOTT FRANKLIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Winter Haven's Lenore "Gundy" Costello, who is now the oldest living Girl Scout at 107 years old.

Gundy's upbringing of helping on her family's farm in rural Ohio cultivated her love for the outdoors. She always successfully balanced farmwork and schoolwork, finishing as her high school's salutatorian. Gundy went on to receive degrees in sociology and biology from Heidelberg University, before working as the executive director of her local American Cross office. It was during that time she met her husband, Boy Scout leader and travel partner, George Costello.

In 1942, Gundy and George moved to Florida, where she began her impactful Girl Scouts career. For over 40 years, she served as the executive director for the Heart of Florida Girl Scout Council, which covered the territory between Lake Placid and Ocala. On behalf of the Girl Scouts, Gundy was selected to travel to the West Indies to share about the organization. She even helped found the well-known Camp Wildwood, a six-hundred-acre Girl Scout camp. Gundy was recognized for her incredible work with the Girl Scouts at the 2023 National Council Session of Girl Scouts USA in Orlando.

At age 100, Gundy retired completely, though not from her lifelong mission of helping others—knitting hats for chemo patients in her spare time. She lives out the organization's mission of fostering "forever friendships" and remains close with her troop to this day. Just last month, Gundy and the Frostproof Girl Scouts gathered for the dedication of their newly renovated "Frostproof Little House," where Gundy gave remarks and recalled her fond memories. Today, her Girl Scout friends regularly write and call to catch up and reminisce about their adventures.

Mr. Speaker, Gundy's servant heart is an inspiration to all of us. I ask my colleagues to Join me—and all of Florida's Heartland—in saying, thank you.

• 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 SILVANA SALCIDO
ESPARZA

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the lifetime achievement of Silvana Salcido Esparza, a nationally celebrated chef, restaurateur, and civil rights leader.

Chef Silvana grew up in a multi-generational Mexican-American household in California's Central Valley. She learned to cook at her grandmother's side and founded her first food business—selling carnitas and tacos out of her parent's bakery—at just 15 years old, before attending culinary school. Chef Silvana traveled widely throughout Mexico as a young woman, sampling regional cuisine and speaking to chefs about recipes that had been passed down for generations. She settled in Arizona in 2002, where she opened her first restaurant, Barrio Café. Chef Silvana's elevated and inspired takes on regional Mexican cuisine quickly attracted notice. In 2004, just two years after Barrio Café opened its doors, she was inducted into the Arizona Culinary Hall of Fame. A seven-time James Beard semifinalist for Best Chef Southwest and a 2023 semifinalist for Outstanding Chef, she has earned features in *Latino* and *Esquire* magazines, *Diners Drive-Ins and Dives*, and NBC's *Today Show*. Barrio Café has hosted celebrities and U.S. presidents bringing all of Arizona closer together over its dining tables.

For Chef Silvana, cooking has always been an act of love for her community and her heritage. Through Barrio Café, she fostered a deeper appreciation and understanding of Mexican cuisine in Phoenix. From transporting key ingredients from Mexico to crafting flavorful dishes from family recipes, Chef Silvana created an ode who she most admires: Mexican women who cook. As a female chef in a male-dominated industry, she has mentored up-and-coming Phoenix chefs and continues to inspire young chefs across the country.

Moreover, her food has fueled community-driven activism. A proud member of the LGBTQ community, Chef Silvana has been outspoken against the waves of anti-LGBTQ sentiment. In the wake of Arizona's disastrous anti-immigrant law, SB1070, Chef Silvana brought paletas to counter-protestors and founded "Calle 16: A Mural Project", in which murals painted on the sides of Barrio Café and other Phoenix businesses highlighted the experiences of being Mexican American. During the Covid-19 pandemic, as restaurants across the state shut their doors, she repurposed her kitchens to prepare packaged meals for people experiencing homelessness for health care workers, and anyone else who needed a hot meal.

There are few people in Phoenix history who have left a greater mark on our community. This summer, after 22 years, Barrio Café will close its doors—but I know we haven't seen the last of Chef Silvana. I wish her the best of luck in this new chapter.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
ROMAN KUALAPAI

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Roman Kualapai's service to our Nation.

Roman was born on June 4, 2001 in Antioch, California. He graduated from Pittsburg High School in 2019 and enlisted in the United States Navy following his graduation. Roman attended boot camp in Great Lakes, Illinois then went to "A" school for his rate as Aviation Ordinance (AO) in Pensacola, Florida.

For the past five years, Roman has served our nation in the Indo-Pacific region where he was attached to the USS *Ronald Reagan* and was also with Squadron VFA 102 Diamondbacks. He achieved the rank of Aviation Ordinance 3rd class Petty Officer, Aviation Welfare. In recognition of his superior performance, Roman received the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal in April 2023. He was honorably discharged on May 14, 2024.

As Roman returns home to California, he plans to join Plumbers and Pipefitters UA Local 342, carrying on his family's tradition as a third generation 342 member. Please join me in welcoming Roman home and honoring him for his invaluable service to our Nation.

COMMEMORATING ONE HUNDRED
YEARS OF BOY SCOUTS OF
AMERICA TROOP 513

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Boy Scouts of America Troop 513 upon their Centennial Celebration. One hundred years ago, First Presbyterian Church in East Aurora offered to sponsor the new troop, known then as Troop 13. Generations of young men from East Aurora and the surrounding area have been well served by the lifelong skills learned during their time with Troop 513. Notably, this troop has produced over one hundred and seventy Eagle Scouts during their long history. I am incredibly proud of this culture of service that has been longstanding in our community.

On Saturday, May 25, 2024, Troop 513 will be hosting a celebration of this historic anniversary at American Legion Post 362 in East Aurora, where they will recall one-hundred years of scouting within the Town of Aurora and Western New York.

On behalf of the United States Congress and the constituents of New York's 23rd Congressional District, I congratulate the current and former members of Troop 513, both present at this celebration and leading their communities throughout the country.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE HUDSON RIVER CLEARWATER SLOOP

HON. PATRICK RYAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of the Hudson River Clearwater Sloop—a champion of environmental activism and education that has sailed the Hudson since 1969.

Inspired by folk legend Pete Seeger, the Clearwater Sloop was born out of a deep commitment to protecting the Hudson River, Seeger, alongside his wife Toshi and a cadre of fellow musicians, created a replica of the historic sloops that once sailed the river. Their mission: to let residents experience the beauty of their river and be moved to preserve it.

Throughout its history, the Clearwater has consistently stood as a steward of the Hudson River. In 1970, it set sail for Washington, D.C., with thousands of petitions in support of the federal Clean Water Act. This historic voyage is credited with playing a pivotal role in the adoption of this historic legislation.

From successful campaigns against the Storm King Mountain power plant, standing up against pollution caused by PCB dumping from General Electric, to the thousands of students throughout my district who for generations have learned about the river through their educational programming, the Clearwater has been a beacon of advocacy, education, and it has helped shepherd in the modern environmental movement.

Today, despite its legacy, the future of the Clearwater is uncertain. Financial strain compounded by the challenges from the pandemic threatens to put a ship listed on the National Register of Historic Places out of commission. Despite this threat, hope remains high.

Together with the support of my constituents and the efforts of my office, we are working to not just save the Clearwater but also continue its mission. Last week, the House of Representatives passed my bill, the "Hudson River Protection Act." This vital legislation is yet another example of the challenges and work that lie ahead to ensure that we protect clean drinking water in the Hudson Valley.

As we recognize the work and legacy of Clearwater, I will end today with a line from a song written by its founder "Some day, though maybe not this year/My Hudson River will once again run clear."

HONORING CLAUDIUS BRITTON II
AND HIS SON CLAUDIUS
BRITTON III

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Claudius Britton II and his son, Claudius Britton III, both of whom demonstrated exceptional bravery and patriotism in their service to our nation during its founding years. Claudius II served during the American Revolutionary War, and Claudius III during the War of 1812.

This Memorial Day Weekend, the Huron Valley Chapter of the Sons of the American

Revolution and the Michigan Society of the War of 1812 will commemorate their contributions with a plaque dedication ceremony at Pinckney Cemetery, honoring them as the only Revolutionary War and War of 1812 veterans buried there.

Claudius Britton II was born in 1761 in Connecticut and relocated to Weybridge, Vermont, with his family in 1773. In 1777, at just 16 years old, he enlisted as a scout for the Vermont Green Mountain Continental Rangers during the Revolutionary War. His knowledge of the Lake Champlain area made him an invaluable asset, though his service placed him in constant danger. In 1778, both Claudius II and his father were captured by the British and spent nearly five years as prisoners in Quebec, making multiple escape attempts before eventually being released as part of a prisoner exchange in 1783. Despite these hardships, he returned to Vermont, married, and had children, including his son, Claudius Britton III, in 1798.

Though the specifics of the younger Claudius Britton's service are lost in time, we do know that he followed admirably in his father's footsteps by volunteering to serve in the Vermont militia during the War of 1812, at the age of 16.

Claudius III moved to Michigan with his father and his brother, Roswell, in 1824. He purchased land in what is now Pittsfield Township and built a homestead with his father. After marrying his wife, Sarah, in 1832, Claudius III continued to cultivate his land and started a family.

In 1835, Claudius Britton II petitioned to obtain a Revolutionary War pension. Unfortunately, his petition was denied on the grounds that he did not serve a full six months because most of his time was as a prisoner of war, which sadly did not count as service back then.

In 1836, Claudius III, his wife, and his father relocated to a large farm in Putnam Township, Livingston County, in what is now Pinckney. Father and son lived in Pinckney for the rest of their lives, passing away one year apart, Claudius II in 1850 and Claudius III 1851.

The Britton family's legacy of service, from Claudius II's daring scouting missions during the Revolutionary War to Claudius III's defense of our young nation during the War of 1812, exemplifies the courage and dedication of early American patriots. As we reflect on their sacrifices in the founding and defense of our country, let us commit to preserving the memory of all who have fought for our freedoms and to honoring their enduring impact on our country.

With profound gratitude, I ask that we honor the exemplary service of Claudius Britton II and his son, Claudius Britton III in the United States House of Representatives

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP JOSEPH
RAVENELL

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated veteran, faithful pastor, and committed community leader. Bishop Joseph Phillip Ravenell celebrated his 45th

year as pastor of Samaritan Baptist Church in Trenton, New Jersey on April 16, 2024. May his good works and deeds continue to uplift the lives of many.

Bishop Ravenell grew up on a small family farm in South Carolina along with 10 siblings. He joined the U.S. Army in 1961, and did his basic training at Fort Jackson, in Columbia, South Carolina. With his faith forbidding him from partaking in combat operations, Bishop Ravenell instead committed himself to saving lives rather than taking them. He was assigned to the 24th Infantry Medical Battalion in Germany for 18 months where he helped save countless lives. He continued his service in the U.S. Army Reserve for many years and received a full honorable discharge in October 1967.

After military service, he attended St. Peter's College in Jersey City, New Jersey, where he pursued a Bachelor of Science Degree in American History. Answering the call to preach, he attended Princeton Theological Seminary, and received a Master of Divinity degree in 1976.

Bishop Ravenell began his ministry serving as Chaplain Supervisor at the New Jersey State Prison in Trenton. For almost twenty years, Bishop Ravenell ministered to inmates as well as their families. Seeing the need for continued care after release, he started the New Jersey Prison Community Network to help former inmates readjust to their communities.

Bishop Ravenell returned to the military and served as Chaplain at the 50th Armored Division Artillery Headquarters, and was promoted to Captain, Major, and Lieutenant Colonel. He retired in 2000.

Throughout his military service and career as a prison Chaplain, Bishop Ravenell proudly pastored the Samaritan Baptist Church alongside his late wife of more than 53 years, Elder Mary Jane Ravenell. They were both actively involved in community development, facilitating a weekly food and clothing drive, educational programs for youth, and outreach to unhoused people. Bishop Ravenell has also been actively involved in the North Ward Coalition, the North 25 Housing Corporation, the Concerned Pastors of Trenton and Vicinity, the Trenton Area Ecumenical Ministry, and Father and Men for a Better Trenton.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in celebrating the remarkable life and career of Bishop Ravenell. For decades, Bishop Ravenell's ministry, advocacy, and service has touched countless lives. May he continue to serve the Trenton community for years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF PAUL FREDERICK ENGLER

HON. RONNY JACKSON

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. JACKSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Paul Frederick Engler of Amarillo, Texas. Paul was a lifelong entrepreneur and innovator, whose passion and dedication transformed the cattle feeding industry.

Born in Stuart, Nebraska, Engler's passion for the cattle industry started at a young age,

buying his first cattle herd at age 12. At 15 years old, Engler graduated from High School and went on to complete his undergraduate degree in agriculture at the University of Nebraska.

Engler moved to Hereford, Texas in 1960, founding Hereford Feedyard, where his entrepreneurial instincts and determination allowed him to drive economic development in the Panhandle. By 1972, he had become an executive at Iowa Beef Processors, once the largest beef processor in the Nation. While Engler had already established a notable reputation for himself in the cattle feeding industry, in 1975, he moved to Dumas, Texas, where he founded Cactus Feeders, and under his leadership, Cactus Feeders would become one of the largest feeding operations in the world.

Through innovative feeding programs, rigorous quality standards, and a commitment to continuous improvement, Paul Engler elevated the standards of excellence in beef production, earning the respect and admiration of his peers across the globe. To name a few, he was named a "Top 40 Beef Industry Giant," received the Cattle Business of the Century Award, the Industry Advancement Award, and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association Vision Award. He was an initial inductee to the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame and the first recipient of the Industry Achievement Award. He was also inducted to the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and the Meat Industry Hall of Fame.

Beyond his professional achievements, at heart, Paul Engler was a philanthropist dedicated to giving back to the communities that have supported him throughout his journey. Through the Paul F. and Virginia J. Engler Foundation, he has made significant contributions to West Texas A&M University, where he received an Honorary Ph.D. in Business Administration and Agriculture from the College of Business and the College of Agriculture and Natural Sciences, both bearing his name. The Paul F. and Virginia J. Engler Foundation also helped establish the Engler Entrepreneurship Program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to support agribusiness and establish a student program focused on entrepreneurship with the goal that students who graduate from the program would return to their communities inspired to build strong businesses.

Engler was laid to rest in Amarillo, Texas on May 8, 2024, surrounded by his family and friends. His contributions to the agriculture industry will remain unmatched, and he will be truly missed by the countless individuals he impacted. Engler was preceded in death by his wife, Virginia, and his oldest daughter Teresa Raizen. Engler is survived by Michael Engler and wife Dalia, Matthew Engler, Mark Engler, Jennifer Coleman and husband Tom, and Sara Cady and husband Steve. He also leaves grandchildren Rachel, Nat, Garrett, Ryan, Ben, Claire, Jaxon, Emma, and Sofia, and four great-grandchildren Able, Trevor, Tyler, and August. Engler is also survived by stepdaughters Claudia Gilson and husband John, Cathleen May and husband Jeff, and Caroline Faulks and husband Steve. Paul also leaves behind his beloved sister, Katherine Anderson. A mentor and friend to many, I join his family, friends, and the people of the Texas Panhandle in celebrating Paul Frederick Engler's life and legacy.

HONORING STEPHANIE “SALLY”
TIVADOR ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JESÚS G. “CHUY” GARCÍA

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a lifelong Chicagoan, Ms. Stephanie “Sally” Tivador who will celebrate her 100th birthday on Sunday.

Sally is the youngest of five daughters. She was born into a family of Polish descent just a couple of years before the Great Depression hit. And like so many children in that era, she worked full-time at a young age. She was only 14 years old when she started, and kept working for 24 years, until the birth of her first child in 1958.

Sally later married Edward Tivador of Pilsen in 1948, a relationship that lasted for 66 years until his passing in 2014. They had two children, Cynthia and Edward, two grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

Sally is a beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. And it is my honor to wish her a Happy 100th Birthday.

BUFFALO BANDITS BACK-TO-BACK
NLL CHAMPIONS

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, today we celebrate the National Lacrosse League’s Buffalo Bandits who just won their second league championship in a row over the weekend in a 15–13 win over the Albany Fire Wolves—completing a sweep of the playoffs and winning their 9th game in a row.

They were led by their Head Coach, Bandits legend John Tavares, who was among the greatest players to ever take the field in the NLL.

And on the field, Josh Byrne, the league MVP, led the way with 9 points in the championship game and 135 points throughout the season.

Other standouts this season include Dhane (pronounced Dane) Smith, with 134 points, Chris Cloutier (Clue-teeeyay) with 68 points, and Chase Fraser with 57 points.

The rest of the roster pushed the team across the finish line, in games and in practice: Zach Belter, Adam Bomberry, Kyle Buchanan, Emerson Clark, Evan Constantopoulos, Paul Dawson, Connor Farrell, Chase Fraser, Cory Highfield, Sam La Roue, Ian MacKay, Justin Martin, Tehoka Nanticoke, Steve Orleman, Steve Priolo, Brandon Robinson, Dylan Robinson, Justin Robinson, Matt Spanger, Dalton Sulver, Matt Vinc, Nick Weiss, Cam Wyers.

And this championship would not have been possible without the contributions of staff: Terry Pegula, Scott Loffler, Steve Dietrich, John Tavares, Anthony Cosmo, Eric Vinc, Rob Buchan, Dan Teat, Dan Ristine, Ryan Rajk, Nicole Rakoski, Mike Maisano, Dr. Michael Rauh, Dr. Michael Jordan, Dr. Heidi Suffoletto, Dr. Jon Beck, Dr. Chris Siuta, Matt Meyer, Ted Cordingley, Casey Deuser, John Gurtler, Dave Buchanan, Steve Bermel, Kurt

Haumesser, Ryan Slabowski, Chris Swenson, Brett Swenson.

This back-to-back championship is the Bandits 6th in franchise history, putting them in a first-place league-wide tie for the most titles, and hopefully setting an example for our other beloved teams, the Buffalo Bills and Buffalo Sabres.

Congratulations to the Bandits, and I thank them for once again making Western New York proud.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CONSTANTINE ‘DINO’ IORDANOU TO THE HELLENIC COMMUNITY AT THE 40TH ANNUAL EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR AWARD DINNER

HON. NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the Record the following proclamation:

Whereas: Constantine ‘Dino’ Iordanou, Chairman of Vantage Group, will be honored by The Hellenic Bankers Association (HABA) on June 5, 2024, at the 40th Annual Executive of the Year Award Dinner for his 42 years in the insurance business, and his contributions to the Hellenic community.

Whereas: Mr. Iordanou previously served as Chairman and CEO of Arch Capital Group Inc., holding leadership roles at Zurich Financial Services, Berkshire Hathaway Group, Columbia Insurance Company, and American International Group.

Whereas: Mr. Iordanou currently serves as a director of Verisk Analytics and The Bank of Cyprus and is the Chairman of the board of Vantage Risk Holdings.

Whereas: Mr. Iordanou is a founding member of the Pancyprian Association of America, an organization founded in 1975 following the invasion and illegal occupation of Cyprus by Turkish troops, to advocate for freedom and justice for Cyprus and its people.

Whereas: Mr. Iordanou also founded FAITH, a charitable organization dedicated to the advancement of Greek-Americans through its scholarship education programs, promoting Hellenism and the Greek Orthodox faith, and to supporting the next generation of young leaders.

Whereas: Mr. Iordanou has received numerous awards, including the Ellis Island Medal of Honor (1999), Reactions Magazine’s Lifetime Achievement Award (2017), Institutional Investor’s Best Insurance industry Mid-Corp CEO (2017), St. John’s University School of Risk Management’s Insurance Leader of the Year, and was named one of Fortune Magazine’s Top 50 Businesspersons of the Year (2016).

The Hellenic Community is privileged to celebrate the achievements of this year’s Executive of the Year recipient, Mr. Iordanou, for his more than four decades of service to the insurance industry, the Hellenic community, and beyond.

REMEMBERING ATTORNEY
WILLIAM J. “BILL” WRIGHT, SR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a loving husband, dedicated fa-

ther, committed soldier, trailblazing attorney, benevolent community servant and dear friend of longstanding, Attorney William J. “Bill” Wright, Sr. Sadly, Bill transitioned from labor to reward on May 16, 2024. A celebration of his remarkable life will be held on Saturday, May 25, 2024, at Friendship Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia.

The dawning of the life of William Wright, Sr. began with his birth on March 4, 1940, to the union of Robert L. Wright, Sr., and Pauline Talley Wright. From an early age, Bill was instilled with traits that formed the foundation of his character—courage, compassion, intestinal fortitude and a love of God and family.

A lifelong learner, Bill graduated from Spencer High School in 1958. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Physical Education from Tennessee State University in 1963. During this time, Bill immersed himself in the Civil Rights Movement by participating in demonstrations and other activities that would cement his commitment to making something of himself and using his life’s work in service to others.

Following his graduation from Tennessee State, Bill answered the call to serve his country by enlisting in the United States Army. He served two honorable years in the Army with two duty stations—Fort Benning (now Fort Moore) and Fort Ord in Monterey, CA. Bill’s service in the Army had a profound impact on his life by helping him to become more disciplined and determined to make a difference in the lives of others in pursuit of justice.

Stirred by his involvement in the Civil Rights Movement, Bill’s pursuit of justice took his journey to Atlanta’s John Marshall Law School where he graduated in 1976 with a J.D.

Bill returned to Columbus, Georgia to begin his storied legal career. Bill was committed to justice and was truly concerned about the dispensation of justice for those who would least likely benefit from its promise. During his career, Bill tried over 1,000 jury trials and was applauded for his tremendous contributions to the legal community. Bill also served with distinction as a Recorder’s Court Judge in Muscogee County. His enduring legacy is being continued through the Wright Legal Group that he founded with his oldest daughter, Attorney Katonga Wright, in 2011.

It has been said that “Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth.” Bill paid his rent, and he paid it well. He used his life’s work to empower others by being a voice for the voiceless and giving hope to the hopeless. Bill played an integral role in the founding of the Fountain City Bar Association that has as its mission the creation of camaraderie and support among African American lawyers in the Chattahoochee Valley. He was a Mason, a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and the 100 Black Men of America. Bill was committed to preparing the next generation of leaders to take up the mantle of leadership in the Chattahoochee Valley and beyond.

Bill was committed to the study and preservation of history. Bill developed a passion for Civil War Reenactments with the 54th Massachusetts Union Army, the First Black Regiment to serve during the Civil War. Because of his commitment to history, he was appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to the Civil War Rites Advisory Commission in 1990.

Bill was a man of faith. It was the essence of who he was as a person. He gave his life

to Christ at an early age at Friendship Baptist Church. He was an original member of the Friendship Youth Organization (FYO). In later years, he joined Bethlehem Lutheran Church, where he was a faithful member until his death. He served as an Elder at the church just as he served others during his life with excellence and compassion.

On a personal note, Bill and his entire family have been dear friends to my wife Vivian and me for many years. We are so appreciative for his special friendship and for the wise counsel and advice that he imparted to us over the years. He never told us what we wanted to hear; he always told us what he felt we needed to hear.

Bill accomplished much in his life but none of it would have been possible without the grace of God, the love and support of his devoted wife and “Sweetie”, Jessie Godwin Wright; his loving children, William, Katonga, Kendra, and Kameese; his grandchildren, his cherished brother and best friend, Dr. Robert L. Wright, Jr., and many other family, loved ones and friends.

Attorney William J. Wright touched countless lives. As an attorney, judge, friend, history buff, husband, father, uncle, mentor, and activist he made an impact. We are better because of him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife Vivian and me, along with the 765,000 people of Georgia’s Second Congressional District in celebrating the extraordinary life of Attorney William J. “Bill” Wright, Sr. and in extending our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and all who mourn his loss. May we all be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. JANIE B. RANDOLPH

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable mother, humanitarian, and beloved community figure as she celebrates a milestone in her extraordinary life. Mrs. Janie B. Randolph will celebrate her 100th birthday on June 4, and I join family and friends in celebrating this significant occasion.

Mrs. Randolph was born on June 4, 1924, in Congaree, South Carolina. She attended Richland County Public Schools and achieved her lifelong goal of obtaining her high school diploma in 1970 from the Richland County Adult Education Center. She furthered her education by attending Midlands Technical College, where she took classes in fashion design. Her interest in fashion led her to become a highly skilled seamstress and develop a passion for knitting and crocheting.

Mrs. Randolph is the proud mother of six children—Barbara, Romeo, Joyce, Nancy, Jacquelyn, and Kenneth—plus two additional children by love, Tom Adams and Sheriff Leon Lott. All of her children attended college and served in the military. She is also a grandmother, great-grandmother, great-great-grandmother, and a surrogate mother to many. Her

four beloved cats, Lilibeth, Corabell, Marthann, and Cleolynn, are her constant companions.

As a founding member of the Good Shepherd Holiness Church, Mrs. Randolph holds the esteemed title of Mother of the Church. For years, she was an active participant in various church activities, including the Musical Choir, Youth Department, Missionary Society, Vacation Bible School, and Women’s Ministry. Her dedication to her faith community is a testament to her unwavering spirit and love for service.

Beyond her contributions to the church, Mrs. Randolph is the former owner of Brooks Grocery Store, a cornerstone of her community. A Gold Star Wife and a member of the Tuesday Rockers and United Order of Tents, Mrs. Randolph has always been active in community service and is a former member of the Hopkins Adult Senior Citizens Program, where she volunteered with Meals on Wheels. She also loves socializing, entertaining, gardening, and reading scripture.

Mrs. Randolph’s motto, “Helping Others to Help Others,” reflects her life’s work. Her favorite hymns, “Rock of Ages” and “Nearer My God To Thee,” and her cherished scripture, “The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want” (Psalms 23), are a testament to her deep faith and guiding principles. Her favorite saying, “If you know better, you will do better,” encapsulates her belief in the power of knowledge and self-improvement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in celebrating the tremendous life of Mrs. Janie B. Randolph on the occasion of her 100th birthday. I thank her for her tireless efforts to better our community and her unwavering dedication to helping others. May her legacy continue to uplift and inspire us all.

HONORING THE PROMOTORAS IN OUR COMMUNITY TO COMBAT COVID-19

HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the remarkable efforts of community leaders and organizations in battling the COVID-19 pandemic, including AYUDA, Inc., Familias Triunfadoras, Doña Ana County—Health & Human Services, and Family Support Services of Amarillo, along with dedicated leaders like Nora Hernandez, Josiah Heyman, Mark Jurado, Adriana Orozco, Gina Nuñez-Mchiri, and the memory of Patricia Juarez Carrillo.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought unprecedented challenges to our communities, particularly impacting vulnerable populations such as farmworkers, dairy workers, and meatpacking workers. Recognizing the urgent need for targeted interventions, our dedicated leaders partnered with the National COVID-19 Resiliency Network (NCRN) to address the specific needs of these communities.

Our leader’s collaboration with community-based organizations aimed to provide essential resources and support to migrant workers and food production workers in El Paso, Moore, TX, and Doña Ana, NM counties. The project began with disseminating vital COVID-

19 information and evolved to address emerging needs, including vaccine access, mental health support, and promoting the NCRN application.

By early February 2024, substantial progress had been achieved in providing essential COVID-19 resources to farmworkers, dairy workers, and meatpacking workers. Crucial, targeted outreach efforts meant thousands of these workers received the COVID-19 vaccine, tests, resources, and more. These initiatives highlight a comprehensive approach to supporting essential workers’ health and well-being and our greater community. The collaborative efforts of these organizations and leaders have been crucial in mitigating the impact of COVID-19 and promoting health equity in our communities, reflecting the spirit of compassion and solidarity.

Today, I am honored to pay tribute to all those involved in this noble endeavor. Their selfless contributions have made a profound difference in the lives of countless individuals and families, and their legacy of service will be remembered for generations to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I missed Roll Call votes 219 and 220 on May 21, 2024, and 221 and 222 on May 22, 2024. Had I been present, my votes would have been: Yea on Roll Call No. 219; Yea on Roll Call No. 220; Nay on Roll Call No. 221; and Nay on Roll Call No. 222.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ESTHER KIM

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exceptional contributions of Esther Kim, our Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS) fellow, who has used her talents for the betterment of California and the U.S. Congress as a whole. From astutely demanding answers from the Food and Drug Administration on how lead-tainted food was able to get to the plates of children and what the agency would do to ensure it never happened again, to building key coalitions of support and helping pass through the House a bill to redesignate a Koreatown post office in honor of activist Dosan Ahn Chang Ho, Esther’s insights and diligence have made real change and pushed important congressional efforts forward.

As she prepares to enter Yale Divinity School in the fall, I am certain her time in Congress is only the beginning of the impact Esther Kim will make on our nation. I know I speak for everyone who encountered Esther on the Hill when I say we can’t wait to see what she will do change the world next.

HONORING EDWIN TORRES
DeSANTIAGO

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exceptional achievements of Edwin Torres DeSantiago, who will soon begin his doctoral program in Public Affairs as the University of Minnesota Humphrey School's first DACA recipient.

Edwin arrived in the United States from El Salvador at eight years old. Despite early academic success, Edwin did not believe that he could get a college education in the United States due to his status as an undocumented immigrant. However, when the Obama Administration established the DACA program, he then had the opportunity to attend Saint John's University in Saint Joseph, Minnesota, where he excelled in academics and earned many University-wide awards. During his college education and beyond, he has been a tireless advocate for first generation and Latine students, leading to an appointment to his alma mater's Board of Trustees in 2023. His advocacy for our community members is not limited to students, throughout his life Edwin has championed countless progressive leaders and policies that have improved the lives of so many Minnesotans. Admirably, Edwin recently earned his master's degree in public affairs from the Humphrey School while continuing his career and extensive community service.

Edwin will now embark on the years-long journey of earning a doctoral degree in Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota Humphrey School, where his exceptional achievements and demonstrated investment in the community earned him a full-ride scholarship. Beyond his admission to the program and tremendous scholarship, Edwin's status as the Humphrey School's first DACA recipient to attend the program makes this achievement duly commendable.

Edwin's acceptance to the Humphrey School is a testament to his decades of hard work and leadership. I am so proud to call him a Minnesotan and recognize that Dreamers like Edwin make our state, and our country, a better place. I have no doubt that Edwin will be successful as a doctoral student and look forward to the continued positive change he will bring to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Edwin for his incredible accomplishment and wishing him luck as he starts this new chapter.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
CHIEF RANDY COX

HON. GUY RESCENTIALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. RESCENTIALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Somerset Borough Police Chief Randy Cox on his 47 years of service to our community.

Randy felt called to serve from a young age and always wanted to be a police officer. He

began his law enforcement career as a police officer in 1977 for Seven Springs Borough in Somerset County, Pennsylvania. He transitioned to the Ligonier Borough Police Department in 1981 and rose to the rank of police chief in 1990. On August 9, 2004, Randy became the chief of the Somerset Borough Police Department, where he served for the past 19 years.

Randy kept a local and positive approach to his law enforcement duties. Through his teaching role at the Westmoreland County Community College Police Academy and Penn State-Fayette, Randy prepared officers for all the hardships associated with law enforcement. Additionally, he graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy's 204th Session in 2001. Randy took this education and incorporated what he learned into training sessions at local academies. He also served as an assessor for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Committee to ensure that all police officers were qualified for the job's rigorous duties. He demonstrated a long-lasting commitment to southwestern Pennsylvania law enforcement officials, and his legacy will be remembered for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, Randy Cox served southwestern Pennsylvania dutifully for the past 47 years. On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I congratulate him on a long, successful career serving southwestern Pennsylvania communities.

CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL
OF THE CITY OF ANN ARBOR

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Ann Arbor on the 200th anniversary of its founding. The contributions its residents have made to the State of Michigan and to the Nation over the last two centuries are worthy of commendation.

Originally the Village of Annarbour, this community was named after the wives of its two founders, who were both named Ann, and was also inspired by the large forest in the area. Founded in 1824, historic Ann Arbor predates the establishment of the State of Michigan by thirteen years.

Ann Arbor is home to one of the most prestigious universities in the world: The University of Michigan. The University of Michigan was originally established in 1817 as Catholepistemiad Michigania in Detroit, then a fledgling capital of the Territory of Michigan, and later relocated to Ann Arbor in 1837. Since its founding, the university has brought defining cultural, economic, and intellectual growth to greater Ann Arbor. The students, staff, and faculty come from all 50 American states and over 100 countries globally, contributing to the worldly and diverse culture of this community. In addition to its numerous accolades for its academic prestige, University of Michigan Athletics continues to make Ann Arbor proud. Just this past January, the University of Michigan Football Team defeated the Washington Huskies, bringing a national championship title back to Ann Arbor for the first time since 1997.

It is not just the University of Michigan that makes Ann Arbor special. The cultural and religious diversity of the city has been a source of strength and has also led to Ann Arbor being the site of many monumental political and civil rights activities. From traditional denominations to more contemporary organizations, there is something for everyone in this vibrant city. Beth Israel, one of the oldest synagogues in the state, was founded in 1916. The city was also the home of the first meetings of the Students for a Democratic Society in 1960, a national student activist group. That same year, President John F. Kennedy set in motion the development of the Peace Corps on the steps of the Michigan Union. In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson gave his "Great Society" speech at the University of Michigan's commencement. In 1965, the city was the location of the first American "teach in" in protest of the Vietnam War.

Ann Arbor has long been known as a hotbed for technological innovation and start-ups. The International Radio Corporation, established in Ann Arbor in 1931, was responsible for the first mass-produced AC/DC radio as well as the Argus C3, one of the top-selling cameras in history. ProQuest, founded in 1938 as University Microfilms, has been at the forefront of the preservation of documents for research purposes since their founding. Thomas Knoll, an Ann Arbor native, created Adobe Photoshop in 1987 while completing his Ph.D. at the University of Michigan. Duo Security, a leader in two-factor internet security, was founded in 2009. Presently, Ann Arbor is host to over 20 video game and XR studios of varying sizes and hosts monthly meetings of the International Game Developers Association. Ann Arbor is also home to many nationally and internationally recognized businesses like Domino's Pizza, one of the largest pizza brands in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the City of Ann Arbor on the occasion of their bicentennial. For the past 200 years, Ann Arbor has stood as a beacon of progress, diversity, and excellence. From its humble beginnings to its current status as a thriving and exemplary city, this milestone is a testament to their commitment to innovation, education, and community. We are excited to see what the residents of Ann Arbor can accomplish in the years to come.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESCONTRIAS
STEAM ACADEMY

HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Escontrias STEAM Academy, a cornerstone of educational excellence in the Lower Valley of El Paso County.

In 1921, faced with the urgent need for a safe educational environment for children of the Socorro district, Silverio Escontrias, a dedicated Texas Ranger and community leader, generously donated land at U.S. Highway 80 and Buford Road for a new school. His commitment to education laid the groundwork for what would become Escontrias Elementary

School and later, Escontrias STEAM (Science, technology, engineering, art and math) Academy.

Notably, in 1924, the academy initiated a vocational program, teaching practical skills like carpentry, cotton farming, and animal husbandry, exemplifying the academy's commitment to a holistic education, preparing students for both academic and practical success in life. Since then, the Escontrias STEAM Academy has evolved into a hub of innovation. From its humble beginnings in adobe structures to its current status as a leading institution for STEAM education, the academy has remained steadfast in its mission to provide innovative learning opportunities.

As we commemorate its centennial milestone, we remain committed to ensuring that every child, regardless of background or circumstance, has access to the transformative power of education. The legacy of Escontrias STEAM Academy serves as a beacon of hope and opportunity for generations to come.

Today, I am honored to pay tribute to the Escontrias STEAM Academy for its century of educational excellence and its profound impact on the lives of countless students, families, and the broader community.

HONORING MR. WALT KOENIG

HON. AUGUST PFLUGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am proud to recognize and congratulate Mr. Walt Koenig, who is retiring from his position as President and CEO of the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce. I greatly appreciate Mr. Koenig's four years of dedicated service which profoundly impacted the San Angelo community.

I was born and raised in San Angelo and am proud to call San Angelo my home. In recent years, I have witnessed significant growth and positive change across the city. Thanks to our leadership in both enterprise and government, San Angelo has become one of the best small cities for business. Mr. Koenig's stewardship and enthusiasm for improving our city across the board have left a lasting impact that is greatly valued by the entire San Angelo community.

Before his tenure at the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Koenig served as the President and CEO of the Kerrville Chamber of Commerce and the Executive Director of the Kerr County Economic Development Program. Mr. Koenig's many contributions on the business level include over 25 years of experience in the telecommunications industry. Along with his history in business, Mr. Koenig also served 8 years as a senior diplomat with the U.S. Departments of State and Commerce.

Mr. Koenig made no waste of his four years serving the community of San Angelo. Under his leadership, San Angelo was established as the Visual Arts Capitol of Texas, the 2024 Best Visitor Center in Texas, and the 2024 People's Choice Award for Best Destination for Arts and Culture in the State of Texas. Along with these accolades, San Angelo has seen significant economic growth due to a surge in new local businesses, tourism, and

overall quality of life. Due to his hard work and enthusiastic support for the city, it is safe to say that Mr. Koenig left the greater San Angelo community in a better position than he found it.

Beyond his duties at the Chamber of Commerce, Walt was also a civic leader for Goodfellow Air Force Base. Mr. Koenig was heavily involved at the base, including going out of his way to speak with students from other countries in their native language. Throughout his tenure, Mr. Koenig consistently went above and beyond in his unwavering support for the community, which left an indelible mark on the city of San Angelo. He and his wife, MG, poured their hearts out for our community, and for that, I will always be thankful.

Walt is a good friend of our office and our community—he will be missed dearly. I am proud to honor Mr. Walt Koenig's incredible contributions to the city of San Angelo during his successful tenure. I extend my most heartfelt wishes to his family for a smooth transition as they embark on their journey to Italy.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT
COLONEL GRACE E. MILLER

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Grace E. Miller for her service serving in the Secretary of the Air Force House Liaison Office since January 2022.

Lieutenant Colonel Miller received her commission through the Air Force ROTC program at the University of St. Thomas in 2006. She began her active-duty career as Assistant Officer in Charge, Blue Aircraft Maintenance Unit, 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at McChord Air Force Base, Washington. During this assignment, she deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Deep Freeze. In 2009, she received an AFIT Civilian Institution Program sponsorship to attend the English Literature Master of Arts program at the Pennsylvania State University. She completed her degree in 2010 and then taught at the United States Academy until 2014, achieving the academic rank of assistant professor and serving as Executive Officer to the Dean of the Faculty.

She joined the Air Force Reserve in 2014, serving as Maintenance Operations Officer of the 934th Maintenance Squadron. In 2016, she deployed as Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Maintenance Operations Officer at the 386th Air Expeditionary Wing in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. On her return, she took command of the 934th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, where she led 110 personnel maintaining eight C-130H aircraft to provide combat airlift worldwide. During her time at the 934th, she pursued her doctoral degree at the University of Minnesota, graduating in 2018. In 2020, she was selected for the Air Force Legislative Fellows program and served in the State Department and then in the office of Senator MORAN.

Please join me in recognizing Lieutenant Colonel Miller for her tireless dedication and service to our Nation.

APPRECIATION OF THE SERVICE
OF WILL NEITZEL

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Will Neitzel, a member of my staff for the last five and a half years. Will joined my team as I opened a new office and started my first term, serving Wisconsin's First Congressional District. Will has been an integral member of my team.

While serving in my personal office, Will's candor, hard work, and humor have been tremendous assets to my office. When first starting my office, Will was essential in getting my mail program up and running, working tirelessly to produce dozens of letters each week. As a policy staffer Will helped Wisconsin families and small businesses better understand and navigate federal programs.

After serving as one of my lead staffers in my personal office, Will then moved to the Committee on House Administration when I became Chairman in January of 2022. Will quickly became my Wisconsin advocate with the Committee, always thinking of ways House Administration can benefit the people of Wisconsin's First District. Will also jumped right in and helped lead the Committee's widely successful "Running an Effective Committee in the Majority Series", "Level Up: GOP Staff Development Course", and the "Intern Lecture Series", among many others.

With Will as a part of my Member Services team, the Committee has held briefings and education trainings for over 2,000 Members of Congress and their staff. This team has also successfully completed over 600 Member-related requests. Will also spearheaded the planting of the Sugar Maple tree on the U.S. Capitol Grounds commemorating the 175th anniversary of the State of Wisconsin.

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt in my mind that the great people of Wisconsin are better off because of Will's service here in the U.S. House of Representatives. I'm so appreciative to have had him in my personal and committee offices. On behalf of my personal office and the Committee on House Administration, we want to thank Will for his great services and friendship. We wish the very best of success to Will, Steph, Jack, and Ada as they start a new chapter back home in Wisconsin.

HONORING FRED R. DOSTER

HON. MARK DESAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Fred R. Doster.

Born on June 7, 1937, Fred was a real estate broker who formed his own business, Contra Costa Properties, in 1965. He remained involved with the business until his passing. Fred served in the United States Marine Corps and served his local community as Planning Commissioner for the City of Concord. He was also instrumental in the creation of the Concord Jazz Festival, which evolved

into what we now know as the Concord Pavilion.

Prior to his successful real estate business, Fred constructed boats, one of which was a wooden ski boat he built in 1958 and which is still owned by his family. In line with his passion for dirt bike racing, he also started Motorsport, a chain of motorcycle parts and accessory stores. Throughout his life Fred enjoyed water skiing, snow skiing, dirt bike racing, and recreational sailing and racing. He also enjoyed traveling in general. Fred and his wife Carol spent many years together traveling by air, land, and sea. Fred's many passions made for a dynamic and fulfilling life.

Sadly, Fred passed away on April 28, 2024 at the age of 87. He is survived by his loving wife Carol; his devoted children: Bradley Doster, Greg Doster, Julie Opp (Doug), Karen Harless (Roger, predeceased); grandchildren Bethany Doster, Allison Doster; Rebecca Stuart-Doster, Hailey Doster, Jeremy Opp, Joshua Opp (Jen), Danae Boyle (Matt); Jessica Brook, Martin Harless, Kelsie Navarro (Felix), and great grandchildren, Caden, Calvin, and Zoe Opp, Oliver, Amelia and Finn Boyle; and Sophia and Claire Brook. He is also survived by his stepchildren. Donald Babcock, Michelle Wheeler, and Susan Bennett, and their children and grandchildren.

He will be remembered for his devotion to his family, love of travel, and insightful guidance. Please join me in honoring Fred R. Doster for his many contributions to the East Bay.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
BETTY WILLIAMS

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Mrs. Betty Jo Cook Williams of Texarkana, Texas, who peacefully passed away on May 12, 2024 with her family by her side.

Mrs. Williams was born on December 20, 1943, at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. She spent most of her childhood on a small family farm in Henderson County, Texas, where she developed a passion for horticulture, con-

servation, and self-reliance. Mrs. Williams graduated with honors from East Texas State University with a bachelor's degree in art and a master's degree in education. It was during this time that she met her husband of 58 years, Doug. Afterwards, Mrs. Williams began her career as a schoolteacher at Texarkana Independent School District, where she taught for 33 years. She participated in professional development workshops and trained with the Hatton W. Sumner Institute to improve her understanding of individual freedom and civic responsibility. Throughout the years, Mrs. Williams was recognized as a distinguished educator who strived to make a difference in students' lives.

After retiring from TISD, Mrs. Williams stayed in touch with Highland Park Elementary School and volunteered to help train new teachers. She was a board member of the Bowie and Miller County Literacy Council and a treasurer for the Texas Classroom Teachers' Association. For her outstanding work, the TCTA selected Mrs. Williams as the "Retired Teacher of the Year" in 2003. She also served as an election judge for Bowie County for over twenty years and attended numerous GOP conventions statewide as a delegate. I am saddened to hear of Mrs. Williams' passing. Her legacy of dedication, public service, and family values will be remembered for many years to come.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capitol to honor Mrs. Williams' wonderful life. She will be dearly missed by her friends, family, and all who knew her.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF VIRGINIA BASLER AND HER SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Virginia Basler, a resident of Ypsilanti, Michigan and veteran of WWII, and to mourn her passing. Her dedication to her country and local community over a long and exceptional life is worthy of commendation.

Virginia was born in Alpena, Michigan, on a family farm as the middle of three children. During WWII, while her older brother enlisted in the Air Force, Virginia and a friend moved down to Ypsilanti to work at the Willow Run Bomber Plant. For almost two years, she worked on the production line, drilling rivet holes for B-24 Liberator bombers.

As soon as she met the age requirement, Virginia enlisted in the Coast Guard Women's Reserves (SPARS) to serve her country in another way. She attended Boot Camp at Sheepshead Bay, New York, where she was trained as a baker, and she was assigned to the Coast Guard Station in Washington, D.C. where she would remain for the duration of the war. After her service was finished, Virginia came back to Ypsilanti where she again worked at the Willow Run Plant, now a Kaiser-Frazier car factory.

In the decades after, Virginia lived a full life. She married Leonard, a WWII veteran himself, and raised a family of three children. She continued her life of service, cooking for the Ypsilanti Public Schools and Eastern Michigan University. Following her retirement in 1990, Virginia was active in the community, volunteering for Meals on Wheels and the local charity Thrift Shop. She was also very active with the American Rosie the Riveter Association, attending events with other Rosies and WWII vets. We were overjoyed to host Virginia and other Rosies in the Capitol during the Honor Flight event in 2023.

Getting to know Virginia over the years meant a lot to me. As a Rosie, she and her colleagues were not only vital members of our Nation's efforts during the Second World War, but they opened doors and have been inspirations for the generations of women that followed. Her wisdom and strength inspired many, including myself, to reach for achievements that in past generations would have been unthinkable.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today celebrating the life of Virginia Basler. Virginia was an incredible representation of answering our Nation's highest calling. She served her country with honor in WWII and afterward throughout her local community, bringing joy, enthusiasm, and love to everyone she met along the way. We mourn with her loved ones and thank them for sharing Virginia with us.