

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING NADINE TAYLOR AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, entrepreneur and hair care specialist, Nadine Taylor has been a pillar in the Kissimmee community for more than 26 years.

Originally from Manchester, Jamaica, Nadine moved from Boston to Kissimmee to pursue her dreams of owning her own hair care facility “A person’s hair is a vital part of their personality,” she says. “I love taking care of the needs of all of my clients.”

Nadine specializes in a variety of hair textures, is a master colorist, and delights in creating hairstyles for her vast clientele. Nadine is gifted in making each client feel beautiful.

Her philosophy is: When a person looks good, they feel good and can produce good things. Nadine is a wife, mother, and grandmother, and makes everyone feel as if they are family no matter where they come from.

HONORING CAPTAIN JOSÉ E. DÍAZ

HON. JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and thank Captain José E. Díaz, the outgoing commander of the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Sector San Juan, for his exceptional service and unwavering dedication during his military career. As he retires from the USCG, Captain Díaz’s career serves as an example of dedication and hard work to all who had the privilege to serve alongside him. Captain Díaz assumed command of Sector San Juan in June 2022, leading Coast Guard missions across the Eastern Caribbean with steadfast commitment and exemplary leadership.

In 1995, Captain Díaz graduated from the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico completing a bachelor’s degree in business administration. He also completed a near coastal Master 100-ton U.S. Merchant Mariner credential furthering his maritime expertise. Throughout his career, Captain Díaz has demonstrated dedication and resilience, navigating both the challenges at sea and the strategic demands ashore.

Over the years, Captain Díaz has been assigned to five distinguished cutters. He served as the Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Cutter *Thetis* in Key West, Florida; as the Executive Officer of Coast Guard Cutter Tampa in Portsmouth, Virginia; as the Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Cutter *Adak* in Manama, Bahrain; as the Operations Officer of

Coast Guard Cutter *Mohawk* in Key West; and as Deck Watch Officer of Coast Guard Cutter *Forward* in Portsmouth, Virginia. Each assignment highlighted his unwavering dedication to ensuring maritime safety and security.

Captain Díaz’s expertise is not confined to the sea, as his assignments ashore have been equally remarkable. Díaz worked as Law Enforcement and Search and Rescue Command Duty Officer in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Chief of the Law Enforcement Training Branch in Yorktown, Virginia. His tenure as Coast Guard Attaché to the Republic of Ecuador and his strategic role as Targeting Chief at the Joint Inter Agency Task Force South in Key West, underscore his broad impact on international and interagency operations. Moreover, as the Maritime Enforcement Branch Chief for the Coast Guard Fifth District, Captain Díaz has been instrumental in enhancing maritime enforcement capabilities.

Captain Díaz’s career has been bolstered by his wife Gloribel Rivera-Rodríguez, whose support has been essential for his success. As Captain José E. Díaz steps down from his command of Sector San Juan and retires from the U.S. Coast Guard, we express our deepest gratitude for his outstanding service, and wish him success on the next chapter in his journey.

HONORING NATTACHA WYLLIE AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Nattacha Wyllie, also known as “Fanm Lakay,” meaning “Traditional Woman,” is a mother of three, a sister, a friend, a humanitarian activist, and a social-cultural-art ambassador/activist. She is the founder/CEO of Haitian American Art Network, Inc., a not-for-profit community-based organization started in Brooklyn, New York, in 1998 with the mission to erase stereotypes and embrace diversity through ART. She currently resides in Orlando, Florida, serving a diverse community, with its main office in Orlando.

Miss Wyllie strongly believes in the traditional ways but is a bit modernized. She currently serves on the Orange County Advisory Arts & Cultural Affairs and chairs the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee. Her past commitments were to the Greater Haitian American Chamber of Commerce, Orange County Unitary Status Board, Orange County Disability Advisory Board, and Seminole County School Board SAC president.

Ms. Wyllie’s educational background is in human services, early childhood education, and radio-television production. Ms. Wyllie hosted a TV talk show that she started on the radio in Brooklyn. When she moved to Florida, she signed up with Spectrum TV, formerly

known as Bighthouse. Then, she landed on Tele Anacaona Television Broadcasting Studios, where she spent 12 years hosting a talk show, producing and organizing cultural events informing, educating, and feeding the community through a collaboration with Second Harvest and Farmshare. Haitian American Art Network, Inc., is “A Cultural Mix; A Diverse Bunch” “Erasing stereotypes, and embracing diversity through Art.”

From 2009 to 2024, Ms. Wyllie has produced the “I AM” movement, a women empowerment event of women celebrating women, honoring, recognizing, and celebrating women’s achievements in different categories. Over 100 women in leadership have been honored and celebrated from the Sanford and Orlando areas, including international women from Haiti, Jamaica, Paris, and French Guyanne.

Her calling started while working as a community health educator for a community-based organization that targeted the Caribbean community, specifically the Haitian community. She found her true purpose after her first trip to Haiti in February 2000 for a Haitian carnival. There, she discovered the desire to assist the less fortunate and fell in love with her Haitian culture all over again. Her motto is, “While going up the ladder, I will pick up one person at a time.”

RECOGNIZING THE FOREST PARK CAROUSEL AND THE SEUFFERT BANDSHELL

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Forest Park Carousel and the Seuffert Bandshell in Woodhaven, Queens. For generations, these landmarks have served as treasured symbols of nostalgia, community spirit, and historical importance. They each hold a special place in New York’s history and in our hearts. It is with immense pride that we celebrate their centennial anniversary.

The Forest Park Carousel, with its rich history dating back to 1903, represents a bygone era of unparalleled craftsmanship. Designed by German immigrant Daniel Carl Muller, the carousel stands as a masterpiece of artistry and has been a beloved attraction since it first opened in 1924. The carousel’s 52 masterfully carved figures and timeless music have captivated visitors young and old, serving as a cherished backdrop for countless family gatherings and childhood memories. Its enduring presence is a testament to the resilience of tradition and the importance of preservation.

Similarly, the Seuffert Bandshell has been a cornerstone of cultural life in Forest Park. Named after the esteemed conductor and composer Dr. George Seuffert, Sr., for one hundred years the bandshell has hosted

• 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.

countless music performances, and community events. It has echoed the sounds of music, laughter, and celebration, bringing together the community.

As the Forest Park Community celebrates this remarkable milestone, I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to the Forest Park Trust, NYC Department of Parks and Recreation, Woodhaven Historical Society, elected officials and many more who have worked tirelessly to preserve these landmarks. Throughout its lifespan, the Woodhaven community has continually advocated for restoration efforts and ongoing conservation, underscoring their commitment to preserving historical treasures for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Forest Park Carousel and the Seuffert Bandshell. May these iconic landmarks continue to inspire and bring joy to our community for many years to come.

HONORING OLIVE GRAY AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Olive Gray's dedication to serving her community stems from her upbringing in Jamaica, where she learned the importance of sharing from her mother. This passion for helping others became her legacy when she began running food pantries in Central Florida over 30 years ago.

Today, Gray leads one of the largest food pantries out of Apopka, Florida, serving 1,500–1,800 families every two weeks in Orange County. Her leadership at the Mt. Olive SDA Worship and Education Center food pantry is bolstered by the co-leadership of her husband, Elder Lenworth Gray. Their tireless work has been recognized by the Second Harvest Food Bank's 2017 Feed Award and featured in the DailyMail and local news stations such as WESH 2.

Gray's commitment goes beyond her role at the pantry. A Jamaican immigrant, she embodies the spirit of the Caribbean community. After immigrating to the United States in the late 1980s, she balanced entrepreneurship with social work, supporting people with special needs. Since moving to Florida in the mid-1990s, she has consistently dedicated herself to serving her community through her church. Motivated by her desire to see people happy and well-fed, particularly children, Gray has always volunteered her time in food service, she has never received a salary. She firmly believes that no one should go hungry, and as long as she has the ability to share, she will follow the example of her mother, who did the very same for her Jamaican community.

CELEBRATING MENDHAM TOWNSHIP'S 275TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and congratulate Mendham Township on their 275th anniversary. I am extremely grateful to be able to be here today and celebrate this incredible milestone with the Mendham Township community. Over the past 275 years, Mendham Township has been forward-thinking in preserving the environment, creating a strong sense of community, and supporting excellence in education. For almost three centuries, the township has become home to families and retirees alike who enjoy parks, streams and playgrounds, annual events that date back decades, and award-winning schools. As we reflect on its history, we can use the past centuries as a reminder of Mendham Township's dedication to fostering a community loved by all. I am honored to have such an amazing township in the 7th Congressional District, and I look forward to what is to come.

CONGRATULATING THE RUSSELLVILLE HIGH SCHOOL QUIZ BOWL TEAM

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I use today to recognize and congratulate the Russellville High School Quiz Bowl Team for their outstanding achievement in winning their first national title at the National Academic Championship tournament. On Sunday afternoon, these bright young students brought home a victory that will be remembered as a milestone in the history of Russellville High School.

The Cyclones demonstrated their exceptional intellect and teamwork by going undefeated, 6–0, in their regional tournament held in May in New Orleans, Louisiana. Their journey to the national title was marked by impressive victories over formidable opponents, including teams from Corpus Christi, Texas; Little Rock Central; an international team from Dubai, India; and Parkland High School in Pennsylvania.

The members of this championship team, Will Stump, Keegan Fuller, Ian Warnick, Matthew Fox, Gidian Fuller, and Alyx Dunaway, have showcased remarkable dedication and academic excellence. Their success is a testament to their hard work and commitment. I would also like to commend their head coach, Mr. Steven Quoss, and assistant coaches, Ms. Rebecca Quoss and Mr. Andrew Taylor, whose leadership and guidance were instrumental in this achievement.

This victory not only brings great pride to Russellville High School and will also inspire students throughout our community and state. The achievements of the Russellville High School Quiz Bowl Team highlight the impor-

tance of academic competitions in fostering a spirit of inquiry and distinction among our youth.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Russellville High School Quiz Bowl Team on their national championship. We celebrate their success and look forward to their future accomplishments.

HONORING PASTOR ROSEMARIE G. ROTH AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Pastor Rosemarie G. Roth is the mother of Richard John, Rachel Melissa, and Rebecca Anne and the grandmother of three. She volunteers at OurLegacy with Advent Health, which is dedicated to raising awareness about organ donation within Caribbean and Latino communities. She was the president of the Organ Donation Foundation in 1991 when the organ donor designation was placed on Florida driver's licenses.

In June of 1994, along with her grandmother, Lydell C. Dawkins, she founded Alpha Point, Inc., as a Christian Center. It now functions as a resource connector, where she and other community advocates offer resources to the community. They distribute free groceries and hot meals, and develop relationships with local churches, schools, and small businesses to organize outreach events to keep the community engaged. She offers free pre-marital counseling for the state of Florida and officiates weddings and funerals at no cost.

Additionally, she serves as an end-of-life doula, providing meals, housing referrals, and supplies to patients with unfavorable prognoses. Her wealth of information has allowed her to author 17 non-fiction books. She writes with passion about cultural and life experiences for the Caribbean American Passport News Magazine monthly.

Her legacy will be her love for people and the joy it brings her to bring hope through information. Her presence is welcomed by Chambers Park in the City of Kissimmee, where she coordinates a sewing class and a book club, thus fostering a nurturing and educational environment for children. Her community involvement includes being the former president of Jamaican Cultural Connection, Inc., secretary of the Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce, Inc., co-host of "Life: Raw & Real" on CRRFM Radio Network, outreach director for the Global Jamaica Diaspora, covering 13 southern states, and president of Citrus Ridge Merchant Association, Inc.

Pastor Rosemarie G. Roth's commitment to serving her community exemplifies the true spirit of being a community builder through advocacy.

TRIBUTE TO A.O. SMITH CORPORATION'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate and celebrate the 150th anniversary of A.O. Smith Corporation, a cornerstone of American innovation and industry.

A.O. Smith was founded in 1874 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and over the past century, has grown from a small family business specializing in the fabrication of metal hardware into a global leader in water technology, manufacturing, residential and commercial water heaters, boilers, and water purification equipment. Today, A.O. Smith employs more than 12,000 people across the world and conducts business in over sixty countries. A.O. Smith provided family-supporting jobs for many of my constituents, their parents, and grandparents.

A.O. Smith was instrumental in helping to usher in the automobile revolution, developing a new, lightweight steel car frame—a development that caught the interest of major car companies including Peerless, Cadillac, Packard, Oldsmobile and Ford. Ford's initial order of 10,000 frames led A.O. Smith to develop the world's first mass production process for assembling frames, later introducing the world's first automated frame production line. This first fully automated frame assembly plant came to be known as the "mechanical marvel" due to the line's ability to make a frame every eight seconds—10,000 frames a day. A.O. Smith was also a large component manufacturer that supplied parts to another early Wisconsin pioneering manufacturer, Harley-Davidson.

A.O. Smith engineers discovered an improved method for welding, allowing for the production of a wide range of steel products. This included the pressure vessel for oil refining and large diameter steel pipe, important components in the oil and natural gas industries.

One of the company's most important and enduring innovations was the process of fusing glass to steel. By perfecting this process, the company developed a range of new products, including glass-lined beer kegs, glass-lined brewery tanks, and glass-lined residential water heaters. Glass-lined water heaters rapidly became an industry standard that endures today and led to A.O. Smith's growth as a global leader in water heating products, which now includes industry leading models that are consistently among the most efficient in the market according to the ENERGY STAR program.

In recent years, A.O. Smith has emerged as an industry leader in developing technologies that address our drinking water quality challenges. A co-founding member of the Water Council, A.O. Smith has helped ensure Milwaukee's place as a global water technology hub, while supporting economic development in Wisconsin. The Water Council helped bring about the creation of the Global Water Center, which houses water-related business accelerators and research facilities where engineers conduct controlled testing on water purification products sold around the world. Bringing to-

gether their work has helped transform Milwaukee into a world hub for water research, education, and economic development.

I am proud to recognize A.O. Smith and I share my best wishes with the company and their employees for their continued success.

CELEBRATING TRISTEN EVATT

HON. AARON BEAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Tristen Evatt, the Yulee High School Hornet, who recently won the long jump Class 2A track and field state finals in the free state of Florida. Tristen wrote new Hornet history, becoming the third school state champion, and setting a personal record en route to gold.

Stepping foot onto the University of North Florida campus, Tristen knew she needed to pull off something special, and she did just that. On her final jump, Tristen buzzed through the air to sting the competition with a massive leap, blowing past her personal best.

The state championship was a hive of activity for Tristen. She also qualified in the triple jump, 100-meter dash, and the 4x100-meter relay. Throughout the events, Tristen shined, finishing fourth in the triple jump to go along with her gold medal.

The state finals were Tristen's last high school meet before she heads off to University of South Florida in the fall of 2024, and she was determined to go out on top. Years of hard work paid off and winning the state championship firmly cements her as the Queen Bee of Hornet athletes. We are exceptionally proud of this young lady.

Mr. Speaker on behalf of Florida's 4th Congressional District, I ask that my colleagues in Congress join me in congratulating Tristen Evatt on this remarkable achievement.

HONORING PASTOR ALEXIS WALLACE AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Pastor Alexis Wallace is a bridge builder. Throughout his ministry, he has been dedicated to developing uncommon and challenging relationships in a wide variety of areas.

He is the founder and president of the Jewish Christian Network, which has members from every continent. Pastor Alexis is also the president and founder of Hagiazo Healing Outreach, a ministry with the unique mission of bridging the gap between faith and science to address sickness from a spiritual perspective.

Pastor Alexis is the founder of Global Evangelistic Center, co-pastoring this church in Kissimmee, Florida, with his wife, Evelina. The couple has two children a daughter, Alexia, who is a federal attorney, and a son, Sydney, a recent radiography graduate and practitioner.

Global Evangelistic Center was at ground zero in Abaco, Bahamas, with a medical mission shortly after Hurricane Dorian devastated the island. GEC coordinated the mission with a team of doctors and much-needed medical supplies that impacted the lives of many.

Pastor Alexis attended Oral Roberts University. He has been a publisher of newspapers and magazines, as well as the executive producer of international Christian TV programs that focused on Israel and the Caribbean and reached millions.

CELEBRATING THE 32ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE GIANT NATIONAL CAPITAL BARBECUE BATTLE

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the 32nd anniversary of the Giant National Capital Barbecue Battle. This District of Columbia summertime tradition takes place during the first full week of summer each year and brings together tens of thousands of families in the D.C. region and visitors to D.C. in the spirit of unity, community and celebration.

The Giant National Capital Barbecue Battle is returning once again to historic Pennsylvania Avenue on June 22, 2024, featuring the Giant National BBQ Championship, the National Pork BBQ Championship, the USO Military Chef Cook Off, the Roseda Best Beef Contest, the Smokin' with Smithfield Rib Contest, the Perdue Sizzlin' Chicken Contest, the Turkey Smoke BBQ Cooking Contest, the Bachan's Chefs Choice BBQ Contest and the Impossible Foods Barbecue Championship.

The Giant National Capital Barbecue Battle has raised millions of dollars for D.C. charities and USO-Metro over the past 32 years and has donated food to numerous food banks.

The Giant National Capital Barbecue Battle has expanded to include a month of celebration in D.C. to promote D.C. and its unique culture, partnering with DC Water, Monumental Sports, Ben's Chili Bowl and the Anacostia Business Improvement District through Art to Go-Go.

The Giant National Capital Barbecue Battle draws some of D.C.'s and the nation's best barbecue talent, and those participants have the duty and the honor of representing D.C. wherever State Barbecue Cooking Championship winners are welcomed.

Mr. Speaker, again, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the Giant National Capital Barbecue Battle.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN LUIS J. RODRÍGUEZ

HON. JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN. Mr. Speaker, on June 13, 2024, Captain Luis J. Rodríguez assumed command of the United States Coast

Guard Sector San Juan. The change-of-command ceremony is a military tradition representing a formal transfer of authority and responsibility from one commanding officer to another. The assumption of command is one of the most significant appointments in the career of a commissioned officer, as it demonstrates their great responsibility to lead and serve.

Captain Rodríguez is a native of Ponce, Puerto Rico. He enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1994 and graduated from Officer Candidate School in 1998. Captain Rodríguez holds a bachelor's degree in criminal Justice from the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico, a master's degree in international public policy from Johns Hopkins University, and a master of science degree in hemispheric defense and security from the Inter-American Defense College. Captain Rodríguez is also an Auxiliary Colonel in the Puerto Rico Police Department.

Prior to assuming command of Sector San Juan, Captain Rodríguez served as Deputy Director of International Affairs and Foreign Policy Advisor to the Commandant of the Coast Guard. Previously he worked as Deputy Commander at Sector Key West, where he oversaw all Coast Guard missions in the Florida Keys. He was also appointed Deputy Chief of Enforcement at the Seventh Coast Guard District, as well as Operational Plans, Policy, and International Engagement Section Chief, and Sector Miami Command Center Chief, among other important leadership roles. He also served onboard CGC COURAGEOUS and CGC VIGILANT.

Captain Rodríguez's work has been crucial to accomplish the U.S. Coast Guard's missions in Latin America, the Caribbean, Mexico, Florida and Puerto Rico. He is married to Mrs. Glory Ann Acevedo, and together are the proud parents of Jesús Javier Rodríguez

Mr. Speaker, Captain Rodríguez's military career is outstanding, and I am confident that the U.S. Coast Guard Sector San Juan will continue to excel under his able leadership. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Captain Luis J. Rodríguez for his dedicated career of service and wishing Sector San Juan many years of success

HONORING ARMANDO "CURTIS"
HIERRO AS A DISTINGUISHED
LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA
FOR CARIBBEAN HERITAGE
MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Armando "Curtis" Hierro is a 36-year-old Cuban-American. He is the national field director for the Communications Workers of America with years of experience organizing for workers and human rights in Florida.

Curtis has a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Central Florida and a certificate in leadership, organizing, and action from the Harvard Kennedy School.

Organizing is a deeply held passion for Curtis. Curtis was born in Miami, Florida, into a

single-mother household where his family faced immense economic challenges, poverty, and homelessness. Through a strong work ethic, a belief in the power of community, and a commitment to education passed on by his mother and grandmother, he was able to be the first person in his family to attend and graduate college. While at the University of Central Florida, Curtis organized students to stand up for campus custodial staff in contract fights and support immigrant workers from the Coalition of Immokalee Workers.

From 2012 to 2016, Curtis was a founding member and the first field director for the organization Dream Defenders—a community organization in Florida led by young people of color building power and organizing local and statewide campaigns to address issues of poverty, for-profit prisons, and accountable policing. Moving on to the Central Florida AFL-CIO as organizing director, Curtis led the AFL-CIO's efforts to directly support the contract fight for fair wages by Disney workers represented by Unite Here and helped organize workers forming their union for the first time with the Communications Workers of America. Additionally, Curtis co-led the fight to make Orlando the first city in the southeast United States to adopt a Trust Act to safeguard immigrant communities in 2018.

Curtis now focuses his efforts on supporting CWA members in Florida and across the country in developing their leadership and taking action to build worker power.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I missed Roll Call votes 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, and 275 on June 13, 2024, due to illness. Had I been present, my votes would have been:

Nay on Roll Call No. 261; Nay on Roll Call No. 262; Nay on Roll Call No. 263; Yea on Roll Call No. 264; Nay on Roll Call No. 265; Nay on Roll Call No. 266; Nay on Roll Call No. 267; Nay on Roll Call No. 268; Nay on Roll Call No. 269; Nay on Roll Call No. 270; Nay on Roll Call No. 271; Nay on Roll Call No. 272; Nay on Roll Call No. 273; Nay on Roll Call No. 274; and Nay on Roll Call No. 275.

HONORING MARIA ANTONIA "TOÑITA" CAY

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate Maria Antonia "Toñita" Cay and the 50th year anniversary of the Caribbean Social Club, which stands as the oldest Puerto Rican-owned Latino social club in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. She has been featured in numerous media outlets, publications, and a

documentary. In the past years, notable artists, filmmakers, and musicians have visited Toñita's Caribbean Social Club to experience the unique essence of the rich Latino heritage it now represents.

Toñita, as she is affectionately known, was born on May 10, 1940, in Junco, Puerto Rico. She is the second oldest of nine siblings. In 1956, during the significant migration of Puerto Ricans to New York City, her family settled in the Lower East Side when she was fifteen years old. Several years later, she moved to Williamsburg, where there was an established and growing Puerto Rican community and employment opportunities in the needlework factories that were part of New York's bustling garment industry. In addition to working as factory seamstress, Toñita began designing, sewing, and selling dresses from her home. This home-based business showcased her skills and helped support her and fulfill her dream of owning the building she lived in as a tenant. This established a foothold in her community and laid the foundation for the incorporation of her Caribbean baseball team and club in 1973 at 244 Grand Street in Brooklyn. Her courage and perseverance defied the societal norms of the time.

Today, Toñita is one of Los Sures Williamsburg's Puerto Rican 'Pioneras' and the last women-owned social club. At a time when Puerto Ricans and Latinos were politically invisible in Williamsburg, Toñita helped elevate our presence and cultural identity by establishing the Caribbean Baseball teams, which gathered hundreds of players and their families weekly. Players and their families were proud of Roberto Clemente and wanted to emanate his game. Toñita's grit contributed to more Latino, and women owned social clubs and baseball leagues. During the 1970's and 1980's, the Southside of Williamsburg was flushed with gathering social clubs for baseball and dominoes. In the 1990's, the rising cost of rent and excessive demand on licensing by the city imposed significant hardship for many social clubs including Toñita's. However, she demonstrated remarkable resilience. Her determination was particularly evident when she took on City Hall and won, securing the club's place in the community even as Mayor Rudy Giuliani's administration cracked down on various venues.

Toñita's victory was an achievement. Today, her continued legacy of community support remains steadfast. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she utilized the Caribbean Social Club to provide no cost essential assistance and home cooked meals to her neighbors and all who visited. The Caribbean Social Club is not only home to Puerto Ricans, but also welcoming place for a melting pot of different backgrounds, cultures and professions, reflecting Toñita's inclusive and welcoming spirit. Maria Antonia Cay and the Caribbean Social Club is the embodiment of the American dream. Her business acumen and sense of community has contributed greatly to the social and cultural fabric of the Los Sures community in Williamsburg.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Maria Antonia Cay and the Caribbean Social Club on this special 50th Year Anniversary.

HONORING CHERYL REID-PAYNE
AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN
CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIB-
BEAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Cheryl Reid-Payne was born on the beautiful island of Barbados, immigrated to London, England, and eventually moved to New York. There, she pursued a career in the medical field and obtained her certification as a nursing assistant.

After over 20 years of living in New York, she moved to Central Florida in 2002 and continued her passion for helping people by working at several nursing facilities. Cheryl, a champion of serving the community, also sought opportunities to do so by becoming a member of the CFAFCC, NAFCC, NAACP, and the Caribbean and Floridian Association, known as CAFA. She has been an active member of CAFA for the past 23 years serving in many capacities, such as chaplain, corresponding secretary, and co-chair of the Service Activities/Education Committee, for which she is currently the sole chairperson. In this capacity, Cheryl enjoys planning, shopping, and delivering Christmas giveaways to residents at Central Florida nursing facilities. During Thanksgiving, she also hands out turkeys at several locations in Kissimmee to families in need. At CAFA's biggest annual community event, Caribbean Fusion, held in Kissimmee, you can find her by the medical tent taking blood pressure as she is also on CAFA's Medical Committee as a nursing assistant.

Additionally, Cheryl and her team fundraise for and provide college scholarships at CAFA's yearly scholarship awards ceremony to Osceola County high school students with impeccable GPA scores. Students also receive special gift bags, which Cheryl shops for and donates to the students with great pleasure.

Keeping in line with her passion and love for children, Cheryl officially opened Cheryl's Daycare, which was opened in the Poinciana area for 18 years. Beyond Cheryl's social and professional endeavors, she finds comfort in serving as an usher at her local church in Poinciana.

It has been and remains her honor to serve the community and she looks forward to continuing to do so with passion and care, with a goal of becoming a member of the Chamber of Commerce. Currently, she is happy being a wife and mother of four children and five grandchildren.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF ERIC
VOLTA

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eric Volta as he retires from his role as Superintendent of the Liberty Union High School District.

Eric grew up in the Santa Clara Valley and graduated from Santa Clara High School. He

went on to attend Stanford University, playing on Stanford's football team all four years of university and graduating with his BA in history. Throughout his career, Eric has worked tirelessly to support students and expand educational opportunities throughout the Bay Area. He worked in the Santa Clara Unified School District (SCUSD) teaching 9th through 12th graders and went on to serve as Vice Principal of Santa Clara High School.

Eric and his family moved to Brentwood, California in 2000 and Eric joined the Liberty Union High School District (LUHSD). During his time with LUHSD, Eric served as assistant principal, high school principal, and Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources. He was promoted to Superintendent in 2011 where he has worked to support students and families. Eric has received a number of accolades for his work as an educator, receiving the ACSA's Superintendent of the Year for Region VI Award, the California Interscholastic Federation Distinguished Services Award, and the California Department of Education's Principal Award. Additionally, he served on the California School Boards Association Superintendents Advisory Council and is a current board member of the California High School Coalition.

Eric is retiring from his position as superintendent after 13 years of dedicated service. Please join me in thanking Eric for his many contributions to the Liberty Union High School District and wishing him well as he begins his new role as superintendent of the Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District.

HONORING ISMAEL RIVERA AS A
DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CEN-
TRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN
HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Ismael Rivera is a senior organizer for the International Amalgamated Transit Union. He assists transit workers in learning the importance of joining a union among all the great benefits the union brings. He organizes the unorganized workers throughout Central Florida who are looking for a voice. Ismael served as vice president of ATU Local 1596 in Orlando and then was later voted in to become the first Latino president of the local. In 2013, Ismael established the ATU Latino Caucus, where he organized Latino workers in the workplace to be a voice for the Latino community at large as well as in the workplace. Ismael served as the southeast representative for the ATU International Latino Caucus from 2013 to 2016 and then became the ATU International Latino Caucus president from 2016 to 2024.

Ismael was a bus operator for 27 years from 1997 to 2004. He started his career in transit as a bus operator in New York City. Ismael then moved to Central Florida in January 2004 and continued his career as a bus operator with the Central Florida Regional Transit Authority for the past 20 years.

In 2017, after Hurricane Maria hit the Island of Puerto Rico, Ismael shipped a 53-foot container filled with food, water, and necessities for the people on the southern part of the is-

land—a small town in the mountains called Tibes. This was made possible with the assistance of ATU International who paid for the shipping of the container.

Ismael served on the Central Labor Council in Central Florida from 2013 to 2024. Ismael represents ATU on the national board for the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement. On this board, he engages with members dealing with immigration issues in the workplace and abroad. Ismael and his wife, Maira, have been married for 36 years and have three children, Jose, Christina, and Daniel, as well as 12 precious grandchildren.

RECOGNIZING MR. JIM WALLACE

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my personal congratulations and best wishes to an exceptional community leader and outstanding citizen, Mr. Jim Wallace, on his retirement as a distinguished news anchor at WALB News 10 in Albany, Georgia. Jim's final day on-air will be June 26, 2024, and a party honoring his retirement and career will be held on June 18, 2024, in Albany, Georgia.

Born and raised in North Georgia, Jim Wallace attended Towers High School in Decatur, Georgia, and graduated from the University of Georgia in 1976 with a degree in Broadcast Journalism.

For over four decades, Jim has been a dependable and well-respected leader in Southwest Georgia. He has built quite an impressive career, which began in November 1976 when he joined WALB News 10, serving in both news and sports. He has served as a weekend Sports Anchor and Reporter, then as Sports Director. In September 2001, he began anchoring the evening newscasts, and in December 2016, Jim's hard work and talent landed him the Lead Anchor role in the evenings.

Throughout his career, Jim has accumulated numerous accolades. He has won the prestigious Georgia AP Sportscaster of the Year and Georgia AP Sports Reporter of the Year award on two separate occasions. Jim is also a Georgia AP Sports Photographer of Year award winner and holds numerous United Press International Sportscasting Awards. Along with his professional achievements, Jim also dutifully volunteers as a Sunday School teacher and youth volunteer at First United Methodist Church.

Jim has accomplished much throughout his life, but none of it would have been possible without the Grace of God and the love and support of his wife, Tracy, and their two children, Jake and Shelly.

Sir Winston Churchill often said "You make your living by what you get, you make your life by what you give." Southwest Georgia is a better place because Jim Wallace gave his time and talents to keep our communities informed about the world around them. Jim's passion and dedication to the news, as well as his broadcasting expertise, are unparalleled, but his heart for helping others is what has made his life's work truly special.

On a personal note, it has been a pleasure working with Jim during my time in public office. Over the years, Jim and I have sat down

for countless interviews and discussions on numerous topics which have been essential to informing the people of Georgia about the pressing issues we face as a state and as Americans. While I have no doubt that WALB News 10 will continue in its mission to inform the public, we will all certainly miss Jim's adept reporting and insights.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian; and me, along with the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District, in extending our sincerest appreciation and best wishes to Mr. Jim Wallace upon the occasion of his retirement from an outstanding four-decade career in broadcast journalism at WALB News 10.

TRIBUTE TO KEN JARVIS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a trailblazer, philanthropist, and community leader. Kenneth B. Jarvis transitioned from this life on June 3, 2024. Though he no longer walks among us, his spirit will forever reside in the hearts of those who had the privilege of knowing him.

Ken, as he was affectionately known, was born in 1934 in San Francisco, California. From a young age, Ken learned timeless values that he carried throughout his life: respect, fortitude, and leading by example. He graduated from Polytechnic High School and then enlisted in the United States Air Force.

After his service with the Air Force, Ken returned to San Francisco and joined the United Parcel Service (UPS), where he made history as the company's first African American package car driver. Ken quickly rose through the ranks of UPS, relocating to Illinois and then Plano, Texas, where he was tasked with establishing the Southwest region of UPS. Throughout Ken's 37-year career with UPS, he opened their doors to thousands of qualified and diverse applicants. Ultimately serving as the Vice President of Human Resources before retiring in 1994, he used his platform to promote inclusive policies and foster a culture of diversity and opportunity.

Ken's career advancements also provided him with the opportunity to further his commitment to community service. In Plano, he worked tirelessly to strengthen the fabric of the community by initiating programs aimed at fostering unity, inclusivity, and prosperity for all residents. In retirement, Ken served on various boards and committees, including Texas Health Resources, the Plano Symphony, and the Plano Police Civilian Review Board. Ken co-founded the Mutual Alliance Restoring Community Hope (MARCH) Foundation, which has provided over 2,000 grants and scholarships for young African Americans entering Historically Black Colleges and Universities. After Ken's wife, Kay, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, Ken began the H. Kay Jarvis Alzheimer's Research Endowment to support research on the disease.

Left to cherish his memory are his son, Kenneth B. Jarvis II; daughter, Michele Jarvis Kindred; granddaughter, Krystal N. Jarvis; grand-

son, Kenneth B. Jarvis III; great-granddaughter, Ariela Giles; and many more.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and our colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Ken Jarvis. Ken was more than a leader; he was a source of inspiration for all who had the privilege of knowing him. Through his guidance and encouragement, he paved the way for countless individuals to achieve their dreams and aspirations. May we continue to cherish his memory for years to come.

HONORING LENNA DONNA
CADOGAN AS A DISTINGUISHED
LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA
FOR CARIBBEAN HERITAGE
MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Lenna Donna Cadogan hails from Guyana, South America. Lenna received an academic scholarship from the government of Guyana to attend the Dental Auxiliary School in Jamaica, where she pursued advanced studies and graduated as a dental nurse. In 1980, she migrated to the United States and resided in Brooklyn, New York. She continued her studies at New York City Technical College, where she graduated as a dental hygienist. In 1988, she relocated with her family to Orlando, Florida, and was employed as a dental hygienist. She is currently retired after 30 years of service. Lenna has been married to her husband, Noel, for over 46 years and has two amazing children and four grandchildren, as well as a son-in-law and daughter-in-law.

Lenna has been a member of the Caribbean and Floridian Association, Inc., since its inception 34 years ago. She has been a member of the Medical Committee serving the community in health fairs, and the Education Committee, which provides scholarships yearly to graduating students in Central Florida. She is currently the chairperson of the Fundraising and Entertainment Committee, a position she has held for many years. She is instrumental in coordinating one of the largest festivals, the Caribbean Fusion Festival, which is held annually in Kissimmee and attended by over 7,000 people who contribute greatly to the economy of the City of Kissimmee. She also organizes yearly bus rides to Fort DeSota Park, as well as the annual holiday party at Christmas for family, friends, and members of the community.

Lenna is a woman of faith and is an active member of Solid Rock Community Church in Kissimmee. She is also the leader of the Greeters Ministry.

HONORING THE VIETNAM AND KOREAN
WAR VETERANS OF ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Vietnam and Korean War veterans who

will be traveling to Washington, D.C. on June 19, 2024, with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides WWII, Vietnam, and Korean War veterans the opportunity to visit their memorials on The National Mall in Washington, D.C. These memorials were built to honor their courage and service to their country.

The American Veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who traveled here on June 19 answered our nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the Pacific Asian Theatre to the Korean Theater, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service, and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorials. I am proud to include in the RECORD the names of these men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude:

Michael J. Acosta, Richard Altosino, Arthur L. Andersen, Bruce J. Andersen, Danny E. Anderson, Jose L. Araoz, Ronald J. Baratono, Edward Bickham, Gregory A. Blomberg, Eric J. Blount Jr., James E. Bradley, Theodore S. Bragen, John E. Brey, Richard E. Brueckmann, Paul M. Bruzas, John K. Bulatek, Edward C. Bunting, Wayne H. Button, Paul A. Carlson, Robert A. Carpenter, John R. Carr, Frank C. Clarke, James K. Claydon, Richaid P. Corcoran, Jerome M. Corcoran, John R. Czerniak, Vincent J. Davi, Billye L. Davila, Warren R. DeJong, Frank Demke, Charles R. Denby, Louise A. Derifield, Paul L. Dillinger, James R. Doyle, Joseph R. Duffy, Clarence E. Dust, Frank E. Edelmann, John T. Ferriter, Dewaine E. Haag, Richard E. Hanson, Thomas C. Hill, Lloyd C. Howard, Paul Q. Ison, Juan P. Jacinto, Sandalo Jackson, Gregory S. Jacobs, James J. Jazo, Terence R. Jordan, Evaldas Kacinskas, Dennis Kleusner, Kenneth J. Kouba, Jerome W. Koutny, Leonard Kozlowski, Raymond J. Kraig, Kenneth G. Krupowicz, Jon N. Lacey, William Langle, Randy L. Larson, Carl W. Leep, Robert P. Legel, Dennis C. Lukaysky, Dennis J. Massar, Carl S. Mazur, Philip M. McCollum, Dennis W. McCusket, John M. McGeoghegan, Charles S. McGrady, Donald L. McNurlin, Timothy J. Mercer, Fred W. Meyer III, Richard Michiels, Kenneth J. Milowski, Donald J. Murphy, Gary R. Nelson, Richard C. O'Connor, Kenneth J. Operzedek, Nick Paglia, Frederick J. Parsons, Jorge M. Perez, Lawrence Peterson, Renzo D. Piccoli, Richard E. Podemski, Jimmy C. Reed, Harold C. Rhea, Daniel L. Rittenhouse, Theodore Rosemann, John A. Roske, Ronald A. Ruttkay, Richard P. Schab, Robert C. Scofield, Leonard W. Seltzer, Monty L. Shannon, Michael E. Shelbert, Wayne W. Sherman, James D. Sienzant, Gerald T. Simon, Larry G. Smith, Richard D. Snyder, Daniel F. Sowonik, Richard J. Stankus, Stanley W. Stec, Gary H. Stieg, Thomas Stoll, David W. Stone, Daniel M. Synair, Gordon Tozier, Robert F. Vardell, Raymond F. Vicari, Robert W. Walker, Clarkson C. Wormer, IV, Raymond W. Wyban, John T. Zajac, and Frank Zanooco.

COMMENDING HEMHARSITH SIVAKUMAR GAYATHRI ON RECEIPT OF THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF 2024

HON. WILEY NICKEL

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our 2024 Congressional Medalist recipient from North Carolina's 13th Congressional District, Hemharsith Sivakumar Gayathri. At such a young age, Mr. Gayathri has demonstrated tremendous leadership, academic excellence, and commitment to his community.

Hemharsith has been recognized for his academic and community contributions with the Outstanding Academic Excellence Award from the President of the United States and the Community Oscar Award for Outstanding Student of the Year.

In a testament to his determination and skill, Hemharsith is an FAA-certified glider pilot, who embarked on his journey in gliding at the age of 14 on August 14, 2021. He achieved a significant milestone on October 22, 2022, by completing his Glider Solo. His dedication and perseverance led to the attainment of his Glider License at the age of 16 on July 2, 2023, marking a remarkable milestone in his aviation journey.

Hemharsith has showcased exceptional leadership by founding the South Garner High School Cadet Titan Corps and actively engaging in the Civil Air Patrol, where he achieved the esteemed rank of Cadet 1st Lieutenant and was honored as the recipient of The Mitchell Award.

Hemharsith's dedication to community service is evident through his roles as a junior volunteer firefighter at Fairview Fire Department, a certified Red Cross lifeguard, and an active volunteer in various flying associations.

Hemharsith is also a leader in academics and is ranked among the top few in his class at South Garner High School. He has committed himself to excel further in learning and is a high-achieving student in the CCP program at Wake Tech Community College.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in extending our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Hemharsith Sivakumar Gayathri as he accepts the Congressional Medal for 2024. His commitment to service, perseverance, and academics represents the best of our state, reminding us all of the impact one person can have on the world around us.

A sincere and heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Gayathri on this well-deserved recognition.

HONORING MAIRA RIVERA AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Maira Rivera is a certified educator employed as the dean of an elementary school in Orange County Public Schools. She is in the 30th year of her educational career, which began in New York working with students with special needs for 10 years. She then moved to Orlando in 2004, where she has taught kindergarten, was an exceptional student education staffing specialist, and a district program specialist.

Maira earned her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Master of Science in Early Childhood Education, and Master of Education in Educational Leadership. In 2006, Maira was the recipient of the Lehman Urban Teacher Education Award in recognition of her achievement as an outstanding educator and alumna of Lehman College who exemplifies the ideals of their education programs in promoting justice, equity, and caring in urban education. That same year, Maira was also named as an Orange County Public School's Teacher of the Year.

In addition to her passion for helping students achieve academic and social-emotional success, she is also a member of many organizations that focus on helping the community with issues surrounding immigration, voter registration, affordable housing, fair wages, and better working conditions. Maira is on the executive board of the Florida AFL-CIO and the AFL-CIO Central Florida Labor Council. She is the treasurer of the Central Florida Labor Council for Latin American Advancement. Maira serves on the governance board of the Florida Education Association and is the vice president of the Orange County Classroom Teachers Association. She is a fierce advocate for all OCPS staff, students, and families.

Maira was also a member of Vamos4PR and helped establish the Language Line Phone Interpreting Services, which provides translation in over 240 languages for the diverse families of OCPS to be able to actively participate in their child's education. Maira's most treasured accomplishment is being married to her forever love, Ismael, for 36 years. Together, they have three amazing children, Jose, Christina, and Daniel. They also have 12 precious grandchildren and enjoy spoiling them every chance they get.

HONORING DR. MICHAEL LOVELL

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise along with my colleague and fellow Marquette Uni-

versity graduate, Rep. GWEN MOORE, to honor the life and legacy of President Michael Rhodes Lovell, Ph.D., an accomplished engineer and the 24th president of my alma mater. His decade of leadership was transformative for both the Marquette and Milwaukee communities.

In his lifelong pursuit of academic excellence, Dr. Lovell completed three mechanical engineering degrees at the University of Pittsburgh, was a fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the National Academy of Inventors and held U.S. and global patents. He published more than 100 articles in engineering journals, coauthored *Tribology for Scientists and Engineers* and was awarded nearly \$30 million in research grants for which he was a lead investigator. His brilliance did not go unnoticed: he won a National Science Foundation CAREER award and the ASME Burt L. Newkirk award in Tribology. Dr. Lovell understood the importance of research and development, and Marquette more than doubled its research and development expenditures in his tenure.

Before joining Marquette's community, Dr. Lovell was the engineering school dean at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for three years. He was later appointed as the school's eighth chancellor in 2011. Once at Marquette, he led the implementation of *Beyond Boundaries*—a strategic plan that encourages students, faculty and staff alike to think creatively and to lead impactful lives through entrepreneurship and community building. Under his leadership, the university has become more accessible to students from all different backgrounds. Dr. Lovell's impact is seen across campus; from the brand-new dorm to the new business school, he fought to make Marquette a world-class university.

Dr. Lovell's thoughtfulness and spirit of service extended far beyond his administrative duties. He never failed to make time for Marquette's students, attending hundreds of campus events and teaching classes. An avid runner, he could be seen jogging around campus. He was often joined by students through his running club, meeting weekly at the St. Joan of Arc Chapel on campus. If a student wanted to speak with him, all they needed to do was put on a pair of running shoes. He recognized the importance of listening and working closely with his fellow Wisconsinites to address difficult issues. Alongside his wife Amy, Dr. Lovell worked especially hard to address mental health issues in the wider community.

Dr. Lovell embodied Marquette's tagline, 'Be the Difference.' As the first non-priest to become Marquette University president, Dr. Lovell held close the Jesuit values that guide Marquette's mission. He worked to connect all communities across Milwaukee and led by example, living a life dedicated to service.

Let us pray for Dr. Lovell's wife Amy and his children—Marissa, Matthew, Anna, and Kevin, and his many friends during this time of sorrow. There is no doubt that Dr. Lovell's prodigious impact will continue to live on through the countless lives he positively impacted as a leader, educator and researcher. Godspeed.