

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING DR. KATHRINE B. SWANSON FOR HER ACHIEVEMENTS WITH METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE LONGVIEW CAMPUS

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with immense, everlasting gratitude in recognition of the long and fruitful career of Dr. Kathrine B. Swanson, the outgoing president of Metropolitan Community College's (MCC) Longview campus. Dr. Swanson has dedicated over 40 years of her life to service in higher education, demonstrating a lifelong commitment to student success that has benefitted MCC-Longview and Missouri's Fifth Congressional District as a whole. Today, I invite us all to take a moment to reflect on Dr. Swanson's contributions to her community in honor of her well-earned retirement.

Dr. Swanson's journey as a professional in higher education takes us across the country. She first received her bachelor's degree in business management from Northern Michigan University, going on to complete a master's in adult and higher education from Montana State University. Lastly, she earned her doctorate in higher education administration from the University of North Texas. Dr. Swanson has dedicated the majority of her career to working in community colleges, being firm in her conviction that quality education should not be unattainable for underserved communities. Before arriving at MCC, she served as the associate dean of students at Collin County Community College in McKinney, Texas, and in several leadership positions, including vice president for student affairs, at Montgomery County Community College in Blue Bell, Pennsylvania. Through a lifetime of such distinguished service, Dr. Swanson has clearly showcased her commitment to bettering her community through education.

Dr. Swanson came to the Fifth Congressional District in 2015 when she was hired as vice chancellor for student success and engagement at MCC. In this role, she worked tirelessly to increase student civic engagement outside the classroom, expand financial aid for students in need, and support a promising young generation of new leaders for our community. Dr. Swanson quickly took an active role in strengthening the community herself, working frequently with local chambers of commerce, economic development councils, and community partners, and even serving on the boards of Saint Luke's East Hospital and Lee's Summit Creates, a local nonprofit working to promote community art. Such involvement demonstrates Dr. Swanson's dedication not just to MCC-Longview, but also to the broader citizenry of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District.

Dr. Swanson's tireless work in service of her college and community has been recognized

and rewarded by both students and staff. On August 1, 2021, she was appointed the president of MCC's Longview campus, while continuing to serve in her role as vice chancellor for student success and engagement until June of 2023. To cap off her already distinguished career, student leaders at MCC-Longview elected to honor Dr. Swanson with Phi Theta Kapa International Honor Society's prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award in April 2024. This honor, one worthy of being bestowed upon Dr. Swanson, is reserved for those few college leaders who have gone above and beyond to support student success initiatives and rear the newest cohort of leaders for our society.

Education is the cornerstone of the American experience. It enables students to support themselves and ultimately support their community as they rise to answer the call of leadership to live out a constantly evolving, perpetually improving society. Without education, none of this advancement would be possible, and without college leaders like Dr. Swanson, there would be no education. Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Dr. Kathrine B. Swanson on an immensely successful and deeply fulfilling career in service to MCC-Longview, the people of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, and beyond.

HONORING BLAKE FUHRIMAN FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AND COMMITMENT TO MONTANA VETERANS

HON. MATTHEW M. ROSENDALE, SR.

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Blake Fuhrman, a man whose life exemplifies dedication to our country and fellow veterans. Blake's journey is a testament to his resilience, leadership, and enduring acts of service.

From an early age, Blake's love for our Nation inspired him to serve with distinction as an Army Ranger in the 3rd Ranger Battalion. During his time in the military, Blake was faced with the harsh realities of war by completing three deployments to Afghanistan. His admirable service in these dangerous and challenging environments forged a resilience that would inspire others as well.

Like many veterans, Blake first had difficulty adjusting to civilian life after serving in the military. But soon after, he found a new mission that would enable him to keep helping others. Blake became a Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape (S.E.R.E) instructor, where he taught critical survival tactics and knowledge to military members and organizations across the Nation. His work as a S.E.R.E instructor which allowed him to give back to the military community, ensuring that others would be prepared to face the challenges he had once encountered.

Blake's commitment to service extended well beyond our military. Later in his life, he took on the role of Senior Director of Clinical Operations Support at RiverStone Health, Yellowstone County, Montana's Community Health Center. In this capacity, Blake was responsible for regulatory compliance, quality improvement, and a wide array of direct and supportive services. His leadership and dedication were instrumental in enhancing the health and well-being of the community.

In 2019, Blake further demonstrated his commitment to his fellow veterans by founding the Veterans Navigation Network (VNN). This organization, which stemmed from Blake's passion for supporting veterans, aims to meet the transition needs of every Montana veteran. Through one-on-one resource counseling, case management, peer mentorship, and a variety of other services, VNN has made a profound impact on the lives of Montana's veterans. Since its start, VNN has directly assisted over 850 veterans, connecting them with critical resources such as healthcare, behavioral health services, legal assistance, and much more.

Under Blake's leadership, VNN has also become the lead agency for the Eastern Montana Veteran Service Provider Network, a coalition of government agencies, non-profits, and faith-based organizations dedicated to assisting veterans and their families. His efforts have been recognized through his involvement in the Suicide Prevention Coalition of Yellowstone Valley, the Montana Governor's Challenge to End Veteran Suicide, and the Montana Behavioral Health Advisory Council Veterans Subcommittee. Blake Fuhrman's contributions to our nation's heroes have not gone and will not go unnoticed.

Beyond his professional achievements, Blake is a devoted husband to his wife, Alissa, and a loving father to their three children. It is an honor to recognize Blake Fuhrman for his remarkable service to our Nation and his continued dedication to improving the lives of veterans and communities throughout the Treasure State. His leadership, compassion, and tireless efforts serve as an inspiration to us all.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF HARRISON SCHOOL DISTRICT 2, OF COLORADO SPRINGS

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Harrison School District 2 in El Paso County, Colorado. Established two years before Colorado became a state, Harrison School District 2 has faithfully served our community, our families, and our youth. Its mission is to equip students with the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors to personally succeed and contribute to the common good.

• 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.

Harrison School District 2 was founded by four homesteading families—Bates, Lewis, Allen, and Beaver—to educate their children. The early investment from these families laid the groundwork for a district that now serves over 13,000 students across 23 schools. This past year, the superintendent of Harrison School District 2, Dr. Wendy Birhanzel, was named Colorado Superintendent of the Year by the Colorado Association of School Executives for the district's high achievement and innovative approaches to education.

As the first district in Colorado to put student representatives on the Board of Education, Harrison D2 prioritizes students and their families. An open enrollment policy allows youth to enroll in any of D2's nine elementary schools, four K–8 schools, one K–12 online school, two middle schools, two high schools, one career readiness academy, International Baccalaureate program, home school program, or three charter school systems. The district's culturally and linguistically diverse education has received local and national awards, and an Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program is available from elementary to high school.

Harrison School District 2 believes that socioeconomic status should not be a barrier to educational opportunity, and this commitment extends beyond K–12. Through the D2 promise, graduates from any high school in the district can receive a free two-year college education at Pikes Peak State College, inclusive of tuition, fees, books, and academic support. Harrison School District 2 also serves community members by offering free adult Basic Education, a General Educational Development (GED) class, and English as Second Language classes. Harrison D2's career-connected learning approach is reimagining education to produce the skilled workforce that the Pikes Peak region needs.

Education is one of the most important pillars of our society today and Harrison School District 2 stands out as an exemplary partner in providing a high level of education to the El Paso County community. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in Congress join me in celebrating Harrison School District 2 for its service to our community for 150 years and into the future.

RECOGNIZING MELISSA KRAAI

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Melissa Kraai of Arvada, Colorado for winning the Arvada Economic Development Association's 2024 Chris Adams Community Spirit Award. Each year, this award honors an Arvada resident who defines and shapes the community's character through their work and engagement.

In 2009, Ms. Kraai founded SustainAbility in Arvada, Colorado, after noticing her community lacked a center to process hard-to-recycle household goods. Taking the initiative to improve her community, she decided to open a facility that recycles items that most municipal recycling facilities are unable to process and otherwise end up in landfills, such as styrofoam, paint, and electronics.

Ms. Kraai is also dedicated to creating a diverse, equitable workforce, especially for Coloradans with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Since SustainAbility first opened, Ms. Kraai has made it her mission to address un- and under-employment among disabled Coloradans by creating quality, meaningful jobs for her employees, a majority of whom are disabled. After successfully starting the Arvada facility, Ms. Kraai expanded operations to the nearby cities of Broomfield and Westminster, allowing thousands of more Coloradans to recycle their household products.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Melissa Kraai for winning the Chris Adams Community Spirit Award and thank her for her contributions to the Arvada community.

RECOGNIZING MRS. KRISTY LYNN CAESAR

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Kristy Lynn Caesar as she is awarded the title of 2024 Tulare County Teacher of the Year by the Tulare County Office of Education.

Mrs. Caesar received her undergraduate degree and teaching certification from National Louis University and her master's degree from Walden University. Mrs. Caesar's career with the Lindsay Unified School District began at the Reinventing Schools Coalition, where she helped implement a learner-centered environment. In 2012, Mrs. Caesar accepted a full-time offer from the Lindsay Unified School District to teach kindergarten and help advance the district's vision and strategic design.

Throughout her career, Mrs. Caesar has been dedicated to educational innovation, helping to improve the district's standard of education. Mrs. Caesar has been steadfast in her commitment to the educational outcomes of all students in the Lindsay community. She has collaborated with other school districts to share her expertise and help elevate the quality of education for their students. Mrs. Caesar has also dedicated her time to improving the lives of students outside of the classroom as a board member of the Dollars for Scholars and the Lindsay High School Booster Club.

This year, Mrs. Caesar is being recognized for her significant contributions to Lincoln Elementary School and the district as the Tulare County Teacher of the Year. This award is a true testament to her dedication and leadership to students for more than 20 years as an educator. It is because of the commitment of teachers in the Lindsay Unified School District like Mrs. Caesar that students in the Central Valley community flourish, and I want to thank her for creating a learning environment that helps our youth become the best they can be.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating Mrs. Kristy Lynn Caesar as she is awarded the title of 2024 Tulare County Teacher of the Year. Her commitment to the educational outcomes of all students in Tulare County will be felt for generations to come.

SIERJIE LASH NAMED OHIO'S 13TH DISTRICT CHAMPION OF THE WEEK

HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize Sierjie Lash as Ohio's 13th Congressional District Champion of the Week.

Lash is a trailblazing Akron firefighter, who has recently been promoted to district chief. Lash will be the first woman in the near 200-year history of the Akron Fire Department to hold this position.

In her 21-year career with the department, she is not a stranger to firsts. In 2022, she was promoted to captain, becoming the first woman to hold that rank in the department.

Lash's ascent to district chief position is a testament to over two decades of unwavering dedication to excellence, personal growth, and leadership development.

At first, Lash was hesitant to join the Akron Fire Department. However, her peers continued to encourage her to apply. Lash joined the department with the expectation that she would focus on being the best paramedic she could be.

To her surprise, she learned that Akron Fire Department employees are expected to be trained as both a paramedic and a firefighter. Lash went through the fire academy as the only woman in her class. Throughout the next few years, she fell in love with the job.

As Lash has risen through the ranks, she has seen the number of female firefighters grow from just 6 women to 32. Her career and new title as district chief unequivocally demonstrates that firefighting is a profession for women as much as it is for men.

Lash acts as a mentor and advocate for women in the department. She encourages other women to seek out leadership training and run for leadership positions.

Lash's historic career and unwavering commitment to excellence exemplify the very spirit that makes OH 13 the Birthplace of Champions.

I thank District Chief Sierjie Lash, for her dedication to her field and the amazing work she does. We are so proud of her.

RECOGNIZING DR. TIMOTHY MURPHY

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Timothy Murphy, who is being awarded the University at Buffalo President's Medal. A dedicated and visionary leader, Dr. Murphy has significantly contributed to the advancement of medical science and the wellbeing of the Western New York community.

First presented in 1990, the University at Buffalo President's Medal recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, achievements, and contributions to the University at Buffalo community. This year, Dr. Murphy has earned the distinguished honor for

his exceptional leadership and transformative impact at the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Dr. Murphy is an internationally recognized expert in respiratory infectious diseases, specializing in otitis media (ear infections) in children and lower respiratory tract infections in adults with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). His groundbreaking work has identified causes of bacterial infections and developed vaccinations and intervention strategies to prevent and treat these illnesses.

Additionally, in 2015, Dr. Murphy founded the University at Buffalo's Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) with support from the National Institute of Health. Under Dr. Murphy's leadership, the CTSI has spearheaded efforts to improve health care and reduce health disparities in Western New York. Dr. Murphy and the CTSI team have enhanced education for clinical research, advanced data science, and increased university partnerships with community organizations.

For twelve years, Dr. Murphy has directed the Ruth L. Kirschstein NRSA Short-Term Institutional Research Training Grant to address the national shortage of clinical scientists. This vital program introduces medical and pharmacy students to careers as clinical scientists through structured research and professional development training. Dr. Murphy has prioritized recruiting individuals from underrepresented communities to help rebuild the biomedical research workforce.

As a SUNY Distinguished Professor and Senior Associate Dean for Clinical and Translational Research, Dr. Murphy is a pillar of the University at Buffalo Department of Medicine's academic community. With 230 publications and 13 patents and chapters in medical textbooks, Dr. Murphy's work has played a pivotal role in preventing and treating respiratory tract bacterial diseases.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Timothy Murphy on receiving the University at Buffalo President's Medal and thanking him for his commitment to making our community a healthier place.

RECOGNIZING PIPER ELECTRIC

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Piper Electric of Arvada, Colorado for winning the Arvada Economic Development Association's 2024 Outstanding Large Business Award. Each year, this award honors a local company who brings job growth, economic investment, and innovation to the Arvada business community.

Since 1983, Piper Electric has provided electrical services ranging from wiring updates and installation in residential homes to electrical construction and maintenance projects in commercial sites throughout Arvada and Jefferson County. As Piper Electric continues to expand, they remain committed to serving the Colorado community. Ongoing projects such as the expansion of their headquarters or their partnering with a national electrical group to increase their resources and job-capabilities, highlight the company's mission of providing high-quality jobs and services for families throughout our state.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Piper Electric for receiving the Outstanding Large Business Award and for their passionate work within Arvada, Colorado.

HONORING COACH CAROLYN WRIGHT

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a loving wife, seasoned educator, legendary coach, and dear friend of long-standing, Coach Carolyn Wright. An event to celebrate her remarkable coaching career was held on Saturday, August 10, 2024, at The Perfect Place in Columbus, Georgia. Coach Wright will be retiring after 45 years of dedicated service to education and athletics.

The genesis of the life of Coach Wright began in Tuskegee, Alabama. She is a product of the Tuskegee Institute High School, graduating from there in 1974. Coach Wright furthered her education in 1978 when she graduated from Alabama State University in 1978 earning a BS Degree in Physical Education/Special Education. Coach Wright went on to receive a master's degree in Specific Learning Disabilities in 1981 also from Alabama State.

Her career in education began at St. Jude Home for Children in Montgomery, Alabama. She also taught special education students at Hancock Central in Sparta, Georgia from 1978 to 79 and learning disability students at Stanhope Elmore High School Millbrook, Alabama from 1979 to 91. She spent her summers honing her education and coaching skills by working with the Upward Bound Program and the National Sports Youth Program at Alabama State University from 1979 through 1985. Her legendary coaching career began in 1986 at McIntyre Junior High School where she coached basketball, softball, track, volleyball, and bowling. She left that position in 1991.

In 1991, she became the head coach at Central High School. She helped to guide the Lady Red Devils to four Final Four appearances, 12 appearances in the sweet sixteen, nine appearances in the Elite Eight, and 18 State tournament appearances overall. Her teams won 11 area championships while she amassed an overall record of 597-375 in 32 overall seasons at the helm. Her amazing career only produced four losing seasons as she was named bi-city coach of the year on several occasions. She was awarded the Sports Vision Legacy Award in 2018-19.

Her legacy extended beyond basketball, as she was instrumental in starting a volleyball program in the Phenix City Schools. She coached Volleyball at Central High School for sixteen years, winning more than 200 games. Her volleyball teams reached the Super Regional Tourney in 2014 for the first time in school history. She also served as the girls' head track coach and the boys' assistant track coach from 1992 through 2007. Coach Wright helped to guide 14 individual girls and relay teams to state titles. Overall, she coached more than 30 boys and girls state champions. Because of her commitment to excellence,

Coach Wright is largely responsible for over 200 athletes obtaining scholarships to colleges and universities.

Leaving behind a stellar career and legacy at Central, Coach Wright is now the Athletic Director and Head Girls Varsity Basketball Coach and Physical Education Instructor at Johnson Abernathy Graetz High School. During her tenure at Johnson Abernathy, Coach Wright was blessed to enter the 600-win club. Coach Tom Landry once said that "A coach is someone who tells you what you don't want to hear, who has to see what you don't want to see so you can be who you always knew you could be." For over four decades, Coach Carolyn Wright has been helping young people from all walks of life to become who they always knew they could become.

Coach Wright has spent 45 years in the teaching profession and has distinguished herself as a leader and mentor to those coming behind her. She was the chair of the Health and Physical Education Department at Central and the Freshman Academy from 1991 to 2003. She served as the Assistant Athletics Director from 2009 to 2021. Coach Wright served on the AHSAA Strategic Planning Committee in 2016. And because of her commitment to excellence, she was chosen as the Phenix City Public Schools Secondary Teacher of the Year in 2014-15.

She has accomplished much in her life but none of it would have been possible without the love and grace of God and the support of her husband, Coach Bobby Wright who is a Hall of Fame basketball coach in his own right. This amazing couple is the only husband-wife duo to be inducted into the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame. Between the two of them, they have amassed 1,227 wins and a winning percentage of .680, the highest winning percentage of any husband-wife duo in the history of the State of Alabama.

But even with all of this, Coach Wright has found time to be a faithful servant of God as a member of the Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church where she serves as a member of the Steward Board. She has also been a dedicated member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc since 1976 and is currently an active member of the Gamma Tau Omega Chapter.

On a personal note, both Coach Wrights have been dear friends to my wife Vivian and me for many years. We are both thankful for their friendship, support and counsel over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife Vivian, and me in honoring Coach Carolyn Wright for her lifetime of service to God, her community, and humankind. May God continue to rain down blessings upon her, her family, her community and all the young people whose lives she will influence in the days, weeks and months ahead. We wish her the very best as she moves on to the next chapter of her remarkable life.

HONORING THE LIFE OF KENNETH LEE FREEMAN

HON. DOUG LAMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Kenneth Lee Freeman of Marysville,

CA who recently passed away at the age of 77 years old.

Ken was born on July 29, 1947, to Tom and Emily (McCornack) Freeman in Atascadero, CA. He was raised at Walking Y Ranch, in San Ardo the family's farm located on 4,000-acres. Due to the isolation of the community, Ken received a special Driver's License at the age of 14 allowing him to attend King City High School which was a 40 mile drive each way. While in high school, Ken played baseball, football, participated in FFA, and became an Eagle Scout.

Ken would go on to attend California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, earning his Bachelor's Degree in Agribusiness Management in 1969. Ken would marry his first wife Marilyn Wilson of 32 years, whom he met while they both attended Cal Poly. Ken would then attend the University of Nevada, Reno earning two Master's Degrees. During college, Ken worked as an oil field drill hand in San Ardo, at the Cal Poly Power Plant, and as a resource researcher in Reno.

Ken and his family would move to Yuba City in 1977. The young family would purchase Feather River Mills, Inc. a western wear, tack, animal supply, and feed store. He would serve as the CEO and lead the daily operations of the business for the next 26 years where he valued his staff, customers, and community. The family would keep the business going until 2003.

Ken also taught Ag Business, Business Management, and Animal Science classes at Yuba College for over 20 years and greatly enjoyed his students. In 2002, Ken married his second wife Sharron Perkey of 22 years, adding two stepchildren to the family. Ken loved Sharron deeply and was grateful for the many years they had together.

Ken was known as a community leader in the Yuba-Sutter area, founding several causes like the Youth in Agriculture and the Tri-Counties Jr. Rodeo. He was also one of the founders of Focus Marysville and the Marysville Historic Fair. He was also an active member of the Sutter County Masonic Lodge, Sutter County Sheriff's Posse, the Exchange Club, Yuba-Sutter Fair Junior Livestock Committee, Yuba-Sutter Chamber of Commerce, Yuba-Sutter Economic Development Corporation, and conducted fundraisers for Saint Jude Children's Hospital along with many other community groups.

Ken is survived by his daughters, Kim Freeman and Sandy Fowler, stepdaughter, April Rogers, sister Kathy Rossi, and 9 grandchildren. Ken was truly a leader, and his passing will be felt by all those who knew him. Rest in Peace.

HONORING AND REMEMBERING
LYONETTE SUE THOMAS

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise today to honor and remember Lyonette Sue Thomas, a woman of extraordinary strength, devotion, and kindness. Lyonette's life was tragically cut short on August 7, 2024, at the age of 38. Her passing leaves a void in the hearts of all who

knew her, and it is only fitting that we take a moment to reflect on the remarkable life she lived.

Lyonette dedicated her life to the service of others, most notably as a distinguished agent with the 15th Drug Task Force. Her commitment to her work was unwavering, and she served with honor, distinction, and a tireless spirit that inspired those around her. As the first female president of the Arkansas Narcotics Officers Association, she pioneered the path for women in this area of law enforcement.

Her dedication extended beyond her professional life; Lyonette was a loyal supporter of the Arkansas Razorbacks and the Dallas Cowboys, finding joy in every game and celebration. Her love for the great outdoors was equally profound—whether she was deer hunting, trout fishing, tending to her cows, or enjoying a ride on her side-by-side, Lyonette found peace and happiness in nature.

But above all, Lyonette's greatest joy was reserved for her family. Her daughter, Raylyn Sue, and husband Austin were the lights of her life. Her love for family was the foundation of her life, and it was in their company that she found her greatest joy.

Lyonette was also an adventurer at heart, embracing every opportunity to travel across the United States, creating memories that will be cherished by all who accompanied her. Lyonette's closest friends describe her as "a big deal, the main attraction, and someone who made a difference." It is evident that her kindness, radiant smile, and generous spirit touched the lives of many, leaving an indelible mark on all who were fortunate enough to know her.

As we remember Lyonette Thomas, let us honor her life by embodying the qualities she so beautifully exemplified—service, dedication, love, and kindness. Lyonette's legacy is one of love for her family, passion for her work, and a zest for life that will never be forgotten. May we carry her memory with us, and may her family find comfort in knowing that Lyonette's impact on this world was profound and lasting.

RECOGNIZING SERVICIOS DE LA
RAZA

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Servicios de la Raza of Denver, Colorado in honor of their 11th Annual Raíces Latinas Gala.

Denver Chicano and Chicana activists first founded Servicios de la Raza in 1972 to provide community engagement and economic opportunities for low-income Spanish speakers throughout Colorado. Today, Servicios de la Raza provides a variety of life-changing services for all Coloradans, including a food pantry, clothing bank, job search assistance, and re-entry programs for Coloradans leaving incarceration. Last year, Servicios de la Raza served over 93,000 Coloradans.

The annual Raíces Latinas Gala is a celebration of culture and diversity and honors outstanding community leaders whose activism and community service exemplifies Servicios' mission of inclusion, justice, equity, and peace.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Servicios de la Raza for their Raíces Latinas Gala and thank them for their contributions to the Colorado community.

HONORING THE 108TH BIRTHDAY
OF LAVERNE MYRICK

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Hazel Laverne Myrick on the momentous milestone of her 108th birthday.

Mrs. Myrick was born on August 20, 1916, in the town of Taloga, Oklahoma. As a member of the Greatest Generation, she demonstrated a strong work ethic and sense of responsibility while taking a job at her local drugstore from the young age of 12. Throughout her youth she enjoyed an active lifestyle, playing a multitude of sports, including golf, baseball, basketball, and bowling.

In 1975, Laverne moved to Harlingen, Texas, where she continues to reside surrounded by family and loved ones.

A devout Christian, her faith has held strong and inspires us all to never lose sight of our morals and values. Her life story and firecracker energy are an inspiration to us all.

I am proud to represent constituents like Mrs. Myrick whose wisdom and strength continues to have an unimaginable impact on our community and her loved ones. In the words of Laverne—"You do the right thing at all time, and at the right time. You don't do it just the first time. You do it all the time no matter how much it hurts."

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mrs. Hazel Laverne Myrick on such an exceptional occasion and wish her the best on her special day.

HONORING RALPH WALDO
ANDERSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include in the RECORD the following Resolution in honor of Mr. Ralph Waldo Anderson.

Whereas, Ralph Waldo Anderson was born in Greenbush, Minnesota, on September 23, 1934. Known to all simply as "Waldo," from hardworking roots on the farm he has prospered to a full and active life.

Whereas, Waldo had his first airplane ride from a nearby farm field in 1946.

Whereas, Waldo enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1957. He trained as a mechanic and was assigned to Smoky Hill AFB in Salina, Kansas. There, he took flying lessons with the local military flying club, where he earned his Private and Commercial Pilot certificates.

Whereas, in 1959, Waldo was hired by the University of Minnesota as an instructor for the university flight facility at Anoka County Airport.

Whereas, by 1967, Waldo became the Chief Pilot for the University of Minnesota.

Whereas, Waldo transported university officials, including presidents and coaches, and made more than 1,000 organ transplant flights and medical assistance flights with hospital medics.

Whereas, in September 1972, Waldo rescued a student pilot after distress calls could not be heard by local air traffic control. Anderson was commended by the National Association of Air Traffic Specialists for his “calm, cool reassurances” that brought the plane back to a safe landing.

Whereas, Waldo retired from the University of Minnesota in 1996 but never from flying.

Whereas, Waldo has been an FAA Designated Pilot Examiner since 1967 and has flown more than 33,000 hours in more than 50 different aircraft.

Whereas, Waldo has been an instructor with the American Bonanza Society for more than 26 years.

Whereas, Waldo has provided flight instruction to countless pilots, including a NASA astronaut and more than 40 pilots now flying for commercial airlines, including two nephews who are captains with Delta Airlines.

Whereas, Waldo’s vast network and experience also includes brushes with Hollywood. He has trained many celebrities, including Harrison Ford, and flew a 1929 Sikorsky S-38 in the movie “The Aviator” with Leonardo DiCaprio and Cate Blanchett.

Whereas, Waldo is an accomplished airplane appraiser, providing reliable appraisals to satisfied customers across the country. Among the more interesting planes that he tracked down was one of the original Bellanca’s that made up the fleet for Hawaiian Airlines at its founding. The plane was restored and featured in the airline’s 80th anniversary celebration and he was invited to visit the restored plane in Honolulu.

Whereas, for all these accomplishments and more, Ralph Waldo Anderson was inducted into the Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame in 2008.

Whereas, Waldo has been married to Ruth Anderson for over 59 years, raising five children together, and spends time in Minnesota and Arizona, with visits to every airport in between.

Whereas, Waldo celebrates his 90th birthday on September 23, 2024, and continues to fly, instruct, appraise, and enjoy planes, with no signs of stopping. Now, therefore, be it recognized,

That I honor Ralph Waldo Anderson for his distinguished career and outstanding service to the United States of America, to the state of Minnesota, to the profession of aviation, and to the instruction of pilots.

RECOGNIZING ARVADA ELKS
LODGE NO. 2278

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Arvada Elks Fraternal Order Lodge No. 2278 of Arvada, Colorado for winning the Arvada Economic Development Association’s 2024 Community Partnership Award. Each year this award goes to an Arvada organization that demonstrates a strong commit-

ment to serving their community through outreach, engagement, and impact on local issues.

Members began Arvada Elks Fraternal Order in 1963 with the mission of giving back to their community. Today, over 1,200 members support their mission of providing “charity, justice, brotherly love, and fidelity” to the local community. Their service projects have a wide reach, from providing drug-use education in schools and awarding college scholarships to Arvada high school students to purchasing groceries for families in need and raising money for the families of fallen law enforcement officers. Their philanthropy work has made a large impact on countless veterans, children, and families throughout Jefferson County.

On behalf of the people of Colorado’s Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate the Arvada Elks Fraternal Order Lodge No. 2278 for winning the Community Partnership Award and thank them for their contributions to the Arvada community.

HONORING SERGEANT LORENZO F.
GARRISI AS THE AUGUST VET-
ERAN OF THE MONTH FOR
MICHIGAN’S 9TH DISTRICT

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary service and contributions of Sergeant Lorenzo F. Garrisi, our esteemed August Veteran of the Month for Michigan’s 9th Congressional District. Mr. Garrisi’s life is a testament to courage, dedication, and unwavering commitment both during his service in the U.S. Army and his work in our community.

Born in Balestrate, Sicily, Lorenzo immigrated to the United States at the age of 7, arriving through Ellis Island, New York, before moving with his family to Detroit. After graduating from East Detroit High School, he attended Lawrence Technological University. However, at the age of 20, Lorenzo left his studies to support his family by working in the family business, Ornamental Iron Works. His sense of duty extended beyond his family obligations when he was drafted into the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War on November 14, 1967.

Lorenzo’s military career began with basic training at Fort Knox, Kentucky, and he was soon assigned to the 11th Armored Cavalry, First Squadron (C Troop), under the command of General George S. Patton, Jr. His valor and resilience were evident throughout his service in Vietnam. By April 1968, he was deployed to Vietnam, where his bravery and leadership shone brightly. Within a year, Lorenzo was promoted to Sergeant at the age of 21, and he was entrusted with significant responsibilities, including serving as a driver for General Patton on occasion.

Lorenzo’s service was marked by extraordinary heroism. He earned two Purple Hearts—one for surviving deadly crossfire while scouting to report back to his base, and another for sustaining shrapnel injuries in his face and back after an RPG attack on the tank he was driving. His selflessness and courage

were further recognized with a Bronze Star for saving his captain’s life and carrying him to safety following an ambush.

After his distinguished service, Lorenzo returned home and married his wife, Antoinette, in the spring of 1971. Together, they raised three children. Lorenzo then embarked on a successful career as a builder, founding “Sunshine Homes” in the early 1980s. Now retired, Lorenzo continues to serve his community with the same dedication he showed in his military career. As the current president of the “Americans of Italian Origin” (AIO), he plays a pivotal role in the AIO Annual Seafood Dinner, raising thousands of dollars in scholarships for the children and grandchildren of local Italian Americans. Lorenzo also contributes to the Quality of Life Committee of “Focus Macomb,” offering valuable recommendations to improve living conditions in Macomb County. His past involvement with the Italian American Chamber of Commerce further highlights his commitment to community service.

Mr. Speaker, Lorenzo F. Garrisi’s life of service and leadership exemplifies the highest ideals of patriotism and dedication. His heroism in Vietnam and his continued community service serves as a beacon of inspiration for us all. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude and admiration for Sergeant Lorenzo F. Garrisi’s exemplary service to our country and community.

HONORING THE PITT COUNTY ALL-
STARS

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Pitt County Girls Softball League 12u All-Stars for its historic win in the 2024 Little League Softball World Series Championship in its own home of Pitt County. It was an extraordinary achievement, especially since they won the World Series in their hometown representing their hometown. Twelve young female athletes represented Pitt County in the championship: Caroline Reynolds, Candace Lynn, Braelyn Johnson, Kenzie Carson, Emery Peebles, Anna Rose, Isabella Ford, Brooklyn Medhus, Emma Pilgreen, Aurora Edwards, Brooke Rose, and Mikalya Bateman led by three coaches: Percy Edwards, Brandon Peebles, and Brad Medhus.

Pitt County entered the tournament as underdogs but defied expectations by winning five consecutive games in the weeklong series. Coaches Edwards, Peebles and Medhus team’s defense was so strong they never even allowed their opponents to score a single run. Even though Hurricane Debby’s storms tried to damper and delay the series by two days, she didn’t keep our Pitt County Girls 12u All-Stars down for long. These young female athletes and their coaches inspired a community that loves its softball and baseball. The girls and coaches put in so much effort practicing nearly year-round. These team members embody the best qualities of Pitt County: perseverance, dedication, and teamwork. With their mantra “Never give up”, the 12u Allstars fought through a field of seven U.S. teams

and four international teams to take the title. I am humbled and honored to extend this chamber's recognition to the Pitt County All-Stars for completing its "unfinished business."

HONORING THE CAREER AND RETIREMENT OF DR. DOUGLAS "SCOTT" BROWN

HON. MARK ALFORD

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career and retirement of Dr. Douglas 'Scott' Brown, a man whose contributions to agricultural economics, particularly in dairy policy, have left an indelible mark on Missouri and the Nation.

Dr. Scott Brown has dedicated over three decades to advancing our understanding of agricultural markets and policies. As an Associate Extension Professor of Agricultural and Applied Economics and the Interim Director of the Rural and Farm Finance Policy Analysis Center (RaFF) at the University of Missouri, Dr. Brown's expertise has been instrumental in shaping the landscape of American agriculture.

A native of northwest Missouri, Dr. Brown's roots run deep in the very fields he has devoted his life to studying. After earning his Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business from Northwest Missouri State University, he pursued his Master's and PhD in Agricultural and Applied Economics from the University of Missouri. In 1989, he joined the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute (FAPRI) at the University of Missouri, where his work began to influence federal dairy and livestock policies. His appointment to the university faculty in 1998 marked the beginning of a long and impactful academic career, during which he not only educated future leaders but also provided critical market insights and policy analysis that have guided farmers, industry stakeholders, and policymakers alike.

Dr. Brown's unparalleled expertise in interpreting market price movements and evaluating the impacts of federal and state policies on agriculture has made him a sought-after voice in both state and national agricultural discussions. His testimony before the U.S. Congress has helped shape policies that directly affect the livelihood of farmers and the agricultural economy. In Missouri, his work with the state legislature has been vital in assessing the economic effects of state policy options on Missouri agriculture, ensuring that our farmers have the information they need to thrive.

Throughout his career, Dr. Brown has been recognized for his contributions to agricultural policy and education. His accolades are numerous and well-deserved. On the national stage, he has been honored with awards such as the USDA-NIFA Partnership Award for his work with the Missouri Quality Beef Team, the National Farm and Ranch Financial Management Program Award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents, and the Distinguished American Agricultural Economics Association Policy Contribution Award.

In Missouri, Dr. Brown has also been celebrated for his service to the agricultural community. He received the prestigious Jay B.

Dillingham Award for Agricultural Leadership and Excellence from the Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City, the Meritorious Service Award from the Missouri Dairy Hall of Honors, and the C. Brice Ratchford Memorial Fellowship from the University of Missouri System Board of Curators, among others.

As Dr. Brown enters retirement, I want to extend my deepest gratitude for his service to the agricultural community, not just in Missouri, but across the Nation. His work has made a profound impact on the agricultural policies that sustain our rural communities and ensure the prosperity of our nation's farmers. Dr. Brown's legacy will continue to influence agricultural economics and policy for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Dr. Douglas 'Scott' Brown for his exemplary career and wishing him the best in his well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING CAPPELLO'S

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cappello's of Arvada, Colorado for winning the Arvada Economic Development Association's 2024 Outstanding Small Business Award. Each year, this award honors one small business in Arvada that demonstrates excellence in innovation, local outreach, and community engagement.

Ben Frochlichstein and Stacey Marcellus created Cappello's in 2011 when they noticed a lack of gluten-free products in Colorado grocery stores. This led them to create their line of products that emphasize simple, fresh ingredients that prioritize the health and well-being of their customers with celiac disease and other gluten sensitivities.

Since then, Cappello's has expanded to grocery store shelves across the country, creating a large variety of products, including gluten-free pizzas, pastas, cookie doughs, and biscuits. Their business has allowed people in Colorado and across the country to make and enjoy the foods they love with safety and peace of mind.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Cappello's for winning the 2024 Outstanding Small Business Award and thank them for their contributions to the Arvada Community.

HONORING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF KERN ENERGY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kern Energy on its remarkable 90 years of service as a vital family-owned and operated transportation fuel producer in the Southern San Joaquin Valley. Since its founding in 1934, Kern Energy has exemplified a resilient "small but mighty" ethos, continuously evolving to meet California's dynamic energy

needs. As the sole refinery producing gasoline and diesel between Los Angeles and the Bay Area, Kern Energy plays a crucial role in fueling both our state's agricultural heartland and its major transportation networks. Today, they proudly contribute 1 percent of California's gasoline and 3 percent of its diesel supply.

Refining up to 27,000 barrels per day of crude oil and producing a wide range of "California Clean" renewable products, Kern Energy's team of 185 continues to proudly meet the transportation needs of the Central Valley and the state. Kern Energy takes a pragmatic approach to producing the clean energy California needs now and in the future. With a focus on driving down the carbon intensity of gasoline and diesel, reducing the environmental footprint of their facility, and innovating toward next-generation renewable fuels, their mission is both essential and commendable.

Throughout its history, Kern Energy has not only adapted to California's rigorous regulatory landscape but has thrived as an innovator in renewable fuel production. A powerhouse for innovation, they were among the first in the Nation to produce renewable diesel through bio-feed co-processing and the first small refinery in our state to blend biodiesel, aligning with California's Low Carbon Fuel Standard and the Federal Renewable Fuel Standard. Their efforts have resulted in over 58 million gallons of renewable diesel and 74 million gallons of biodiesel blended into their fuels.

Beyond their contributions to clean energy, Kern Energy has been a steadfast community partner, committed to both economic growth and environmental stewardship. Over the years, Kern Energy has demonstrated a strong commitment to their workforce and the communities they serve, ensuring that their operations contribute positively to our region's prosperity.

As we celebrate Kern Energy's 90th anniversary, I commend them for their leadership in energy innovation and their dedication to preserving our community's quality of life. Here's to another 90 years of excellence, job creation and sustainable solutions as Kern Energy continues to pave the way for a cleaner, brighter future for California.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in honoring Kern Energy. Let us celebrate their legacy and their ongoing commitment to advancing California's climate goals.

CONGRATULATING DR. SARA "MANDY" REECE

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Sara "Mandy" Reece on her appointment as Interim dean of the School of Pharmacy at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, known as PCOM.

Dr. Reece has been a part of the Georgia PCOM community since 2010, having served as the Vice Chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Director of Interprofessional Education.

Before Joining the PCOM community, Dr. Reece served as a pharmacy director and diabetes educator at District 2 Public Health in Gainesville, Georgia.

Dr. Reece's appointment as interim dean is only one of her many accomplishments, among being named the PCOM School of Pharmacy Teacher of the Year for Pharmacy Practice in 2019 and Faculty Preceptor of the Year in 2022 and 2023.

In Dr. Reece's new role as interim dean, she will continue to advance the great mission of PCOM's School of Pharmacy throughout the state of Georgia.

I sincerely congratulate Dr. Reece on her accomplishments and share this excitement with the Georgia PCOM community.

RECOGNIZING DAVID LUCAS

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize David Lucas for winning the 2024 Paul Kroegel Refuge Manager of the Year award from the National Wildlife Refuge Association.

The Paul Kroegel Award honors refuge managers who have made significant contributions to the protection and management of national wildlife refuges. During his time as a manager for the Rocky Flats, Two Ponds, and Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuges, David rehabilitated two formerly hazardous waste sites into thriving animal refuges, oversaw the restoration of 15,000 acres of prairie habitat, and reintroduced the Black-Footed Ferret to one of his refuges. He also expanded access to his refuges by installing ADA accessible e trails and piers and hiring bilingual rangers. David's work brought Colorado's public lands closer to home, ensuring that everyone can learn from and enjoy our diverse environment.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate David Lucas on receiving the Refuge Manager of the Year award and thank him for his remarkable work in conserving Colorado's public lands.

LORNA KEARNEY NAMED OHIO'S 13TH DISTRICT CHAMPION OF THE WEEK

HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize Lorna Kearney of Akron as Ohio 13's Champion of the Week.

Lorna recently made history at 66 years old when she became the oldest player to play in the American Women's Football League for her team, the Detroit Prowl.

Lorna has always had a love for sports, and her passion for football led to her interest in joining the American Women's Football League.

Unfortunately, the year she was supposed to start playing, she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

However, Lorna fought hard and won her battle with cancer, and this year, she played her first game.

Lorna's dedication is an inspiration, not just to her family and teammates, but to everyone in our community.

Lorna's dedication to tackle adversity on and off the field is a shining example of the spirit that makes Ohio's 13th Congressional District the Birthplace of Champions.

I congratulate Lorna Kearney, for making history and demonstrating it's never too late to do the things you love.

RECOGNIZING HENRIKSEN AMPLIFIERS

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Henriksen Amplifiers of Arvada, Colorado for receiving the Arvada Economic Development Association's 2024 Lloyd J. King Entrepreneurial Spirit Award. Each year, this award recognizes an Arvada company that demonstrates excellence in entrepreneurial spirit, creative business practices, and economic innovation.

Bud Henriksen founded Henriksen Amplifiers in 2006 with his son Peter when a newly acquired jazz guitar led him to make his own amp. Since Bud's passing in 2009, Peter Henriksen has carried on his father's legacy while expanding further into other genres of music. Henriksen's contributions to Arvada extend beyond amplifiers: the business has been committed to investing their time, expertise, and money in local concerts, artists, and community events, such as the annual Rocky Mountain Archtop Guitar Festival in Olde Town Arvada. Henriksen Amplifiers sets a clear example of how a business can bring more to a community than just their product.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Henriksen Amplifiers for receiving the Lloyd J. King Entrepreneurial Spirit Award and for their contributions to the Arvada community.

RECOGNIZING MRS. MARIA RODRIGUEZ MENA

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Maria Rodriguez Mena, who passed away on July 1, 2024. Maria Rodriguez Mena was born in Aquila, Michoacan, on December 27, 1958, to Maria and Severo Rodriguez. At the age of 15, she moved to the United States with her parents and siblings, where they settled in Visalia. She later graduated from the College of the Sequoias. Mrs. Mena began her career in broadcasting at KQIQ radio station, initially working in promotions. She later hosted her own show, "Mujer a Mujer," where she offered advice on relationships to her listeners. In 1986, Mrs. Mena married Patricio Mena, a local realtor and owner of Studio 45. After her time at KQIQ, she transitioned into real estate herself, becoming a well-known and respected realtor

within the Latino community. Throughout her career, she was passionate about helping families find their ideal homes. In 2007, she and her husband remodeled Studio 45 and opened Giovanni's Pizzeria and Arcade. Mrs. Mena was deeply committed to helping improve the lives of others in the Porterville community. She was an active participant in Encuentro Matrimonial, helping couples to resolve their issues. She also served as president of both the Exchange Club and the Southeastern Tulare County Republican Women. She graduated from Leadership Porterville and was a member of the Zonta Club of Porterville. Mrs. Mena was a dedicated parishioner at Holy Cross Church. In her free time, she enjoyed spending time with her family and playing golf with friends. Mrs. Mena will be remembered for her kindness, empathy, and passion for the well-being of the Porterville community. She is survived by her husband Patricio and their three children, Pierre, Bonita and Giovanni.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the incredible life of Mrs. Maria Rodriguez Mena. Her dedication to the Porterville community will be felt for generations to come.

CHRIS POA NAMED OHIO'S 13TH DISTRICT CHAMPION OF THE WEEK

HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Chris Poa of Hudson as Ohio 13's Champion of the Week.

Chris has been a Hudson U.S. Postal worker for 29 years, and recently, his awareness and quick-thinking helped save the life of an elderly woman.

Chris was on his delivery route when he noticed one of the residents he delivers to, a 91-year-old woman, had not picked up her mail in a few days.

Chris often chatted with the resident, and his concern prompted him to call in a wellness check for her.

When EMS arrived, they found that the older woman had fallen in her home and was unable to get up.

Thanks to Chris's attentiveness, EMS was able to take the woman to the hospital for treatment.

Chris was awarded the Hudson EMS Life Saving Award for his actions.

And his selflessness and compassion is a shining example of the spirit that makes our district the Birthplace of Champions—a place where neighbors care for each other and look out for one another.

I thank Chris Poa for his continued dedication to serving our community.

CELEBRATING THE ADAMS FIRE COMPANY 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Adams Fire Company's 100-

year anniversary. For a century, the Adams Fire Company has served the Town of Wheatfield and Niagara County, providing lifesaving fire protection and EMS services to our community.

In 1924, thirty residents of the Town of Wheatfield came together at the District 3 Schoolhouse with a goal to establish a fire department in Nashville, NY. Charter members George Tollner, Walter Tollner, William Adams, William Gombert, Albert Beutel, and Benjamin Tollner saw the pressing need for a fire department in their town after their friend Fred Zastrow's barn burned to the ground.

The building of the Adams Fire Company was a true community effort. William Adams, the fire company's namesake, donated a lot on Niagara Falls Boulevard for the new station; the original building still stands today. The 30 founding members built the fire station, with material donated from local lumber yards and monetary donations collected from the community fund they established.

Further, the Adams Fire Company has been a cornerstone of the Niagara County community, hosting numerous events for residents. From field days and dances to pie sales and bingo night fundraisers, the Adams Fire Company has shown its unwavering dedication to serving our community.

In 2023, the Adams Fire Company ran 754 calls, 586 Emergency Medical Service calls, and provided mutual aid 46 times. Under the steadfast leadership of Fire Chief Donald Lauer, the Adams Fire Company has continued to keep the Town of Wheatfield and Niagara County communities safe and protected.

Please join me in congratulating the Adams Fire Company on their 100th anniversary and thanking them for their incredible service to the Western New York community.

RECOGNIZING EUROPEAN
GOURMET

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize European Gourmet of Arvada, Colorado for receiving the Arvada Economic Development Association's 2024 Outstanding Retailer Award. Each year, this award honors an Arvada business that demonstrates an exceptional contribution to the local economy and commitment to excellence in service.

Since the Bien family founded the business in 1999, they have worked hard to offer a wide variety of traditional Polish and Eastern European treats, such as their sausages, hams, cheeses, bread, pierogies, and sweets. Today, European Gourmet has earned the reputation as a top destination for Polish and Eastern European cuisine in Colorado, with people from around the state traveling to Arvada to

experience their authentic foods and great service.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate European Gourmet on receiving the Outstanding Retailer Award and for their contributions to the Arvada community.

HONORING MRS. LILLIAN McCLAIN

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor a distinguished member of my community, Lillian McClain, who is turning 100 years old next month. Born on September 5, 1924, in Charlotte, North Carolina, Mrs. McClain spent much of her childhood in Clifton Forge, Virginia. Following her graduation from Clifton Forge High School, she attended Longwood College (now Longwood University) in Farmville, Virginia, for one year. She left Longwood to contribute to the World War II effort, taking a position with the Army at Fort Bellwood and volunteering at USO clubs in Richmond, Virginia. During her time at Fort Bellwood, she met and later married John R. McClain, Sr., on April 11, 1945.

After the war, Mrs. McClain and John resided briefly in Washington, D.C., where their first son, John, was born. They soon moved to Lynchburg, Virginia, where their other sons, David and Mark, were welcomed into the family.

Throughout her career, Mrs. McClain primarily worked as a bank teller. Her unwavering dedication to her community extended far beyond her career. She has been an active member of the Methodist Church throughout her life and has engaged in numerous activities, including volunteering at her sons' events, participating in community theater, and singing with the Sweet Adelines.

Mrs. McClain has been a witness to significant historical events and has gained great knowledge to share with future generations.

Currently, Mrs. McClain resides in New Bern, North Carolina, with her son John and his wife, Dixie. It is with great respect and admiration that I lead my colleagues in recognizing Mrs. McClain for her extraordinary contributions and the remarkable life she has led in service to our Great Nation. I wish Mrs. McClain a very Happy Birthday.

HONORING SHEILA MOBLEY
McNEILL

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the death of the Honorable

Sheila Mobley McNeill who recently passed away at 81 years old in the city where she was born, Brunswick, GA.

Sheila served as Navy League's 42nd national president from 2003 to 2005. She was the first and only female president in the organization's 121-year history.

Additionally, she spent 58 years with the Navy League where she held many distinguished positions before becoming its president.

She earned many awards for her service, including the Secretary of the Navy's Distinguished, Superior and Meritorious Public Service medals, the United States Coast Guard's Distinguished and Meritorious Public Service medals, and many more.

She also served as a Georgia state senator representing district 3 from January 2021 to January 2023. She was a devoted wife to Arlie McNeill, a Navy veteran who passed in 2023, and is remembered as a loving mother and grandmother.

RECOGNIZING LINDSEY HORAN

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lindsey Horan of Golden, Colorado for representing the United States in Women's Soccer at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games.

Lindsey is a world-class athlete, having won three championship titles since she began her professional career in 2012. She played a vital role in the United States Women's National Soccer Team (USWNT) winning the Women's 2019 World Cup and earning the bronze medal during the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. She returned to the international field as captain of the team during the 2023 World Cup, where she led the team to the knockout stage of the tournament. Lindsey, along with the rest of the USWNT, has also worked hard to champion equal pay between the men's and women's national soccer teams. She is a remarkable athlete, and her valuable contributions during the 2024 Paris Olympic Games helped the United States bring home an Olympic gold medal.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional district, it is my honor to congratulate Lindsey Horan for representing Colorado and the United States during the 2024 Paris Olympic Games.