

Ronelle's impact runs deep in Chicago. As a key architect of the 22nd Ward Independent Political Organization, Ronelle helped pave the way for Harold Washington's historic election as the city's first Black mayor in 1983.

For decades, he has been a relentless advocate for equity, justice, and true representation. His work has empowered countless voices and strengthened our democracy.

Mr. Speaker, Ronelle's legacy is one of courage and conviction. I thank him for his unwavering dedication to justice and for his friendship.

#### 500 DAYS SINCE OCTOBER 7 ATTACK

(Mr. ROSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the many families still grieving from the heinous assault that claimed 1,200 innocent lives on October 7, 2023.

Last Monday marked 500 days since Hamas terrorists perpetrated the unprovoked and truly evil attack. It was the deadliest assault on Israel and the Jewish community since the Holocaust.

I commend President Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu for their efforts to secure the recent ceasefire agreement. Because of their collaboration, we are seeing some of the 240 hostages being released, including Americans.

I urge my colleagues to keep the events of that horrific day top of mind. It is imperative that the United States show unwavering support for Israel and the Jewish community so that Hamas terrorists or any other bad actors never attempt another attack on our closest ally in the Middle East, Israel.

#### IT IS TIME TO LOWER COSTS

(Ms. BYNUM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BYNUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask: When are prices going down?

I was told that this would be priority number one for this administration and Speaker MIKE JOHNSON, but I have yet to have a chance to vote on a single piece of legislation that actually lowers costs.

I am hearing from my constituents over and over and over and over again that their grocery bills are too high, that they can't afford to buy a home, and that their paycheck just doesn't go as far as it used to.

We need to be doing more to help families get by instead of focusing on petty partisan politics. I have said over and over again my focus is lower costs, more jobs, and a better quality of life for Oregonians and that I will work with anyone to get that done. I am pur-

suing all of that by co-leading bipartisan legislation to help rural small businesses, by advocating for funding for my district, and by actually listening to my constituents. It is time for others to do the same.

#### HONORING DIANA TAURASI

(Mr. STANTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, today is bittersweet. Diana Taurasi of the Phoenix Mercury announced her retirement.

DT is the greatest professional athlete in Arizona sports history—fight me on that one—with three NCAA championships, three WNBA championships, and six Olympic Gold Medals and as the WNBA's all-time leading scorer. There is a reason when I was mayor I named the street in front of the arena Taurasi Way.

A world-class and hilarious trash-talker on the court, she could have been a professional comedian. She lights up every room that she is in, constantly uplifting others. Brittney Griner could not have asked for a more loyal friend during her detainment in Russia.

I had a courtside seat to her entire 21-year career in Phoenix. I saw her grow as a basketball player and as a tremendous leader in our community.

My son, Trevor, grew up idolizing Diana Taurasi. He wanted to be her when he grew up, but one day, I had to tell him: Son, you can't grow up to be Diana Taurasi. Her jump shot is just too darn good.

Dee, on behalf of a grateful city, God-speed on your retirement.

#### HONORING GERALDINE THOMPSON

(Mr. FROST asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise with a heavy heart to honor the loss of a giant, Florida State Senator Geraldine Thompson. She was a trailblazer, historian, and fierce advocate who worked every day to uplift Floridians, ensuring that nobody was left behind.

For nearly 20 years in the Florida Legislature, she broke barriers and created opportunities, especially for Black communities and those often overlooked.

Senator Thompson was unapologetic, courageous, and a force for good like no other. She paved the way for people like me to be in a job like this. She believed in the promise of this country and fought to make it a reality for everybody.

Senator Thompson's contributions to Florida and really to this country will never be forgotten, and her spirit will live on in the work she championed and in all of us who she inspired.

May she rest in power. Thank you so much, Senator Thompson.

#### AANHPI HISTORY AND BLACK HISTORY BONDED TOGETHER

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, Black history has shaped our country, and I am proud to celebrate Black History Month with my Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus colleagues.

The coalition of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islanders, and Black Americans has worked hand-in-hand for generations to advance racial equality. That coalition was on full display during Martin Luther King, Jr.'s historic march from Selma to Montgomery in 1965 when he wore a lei gifted to him by Reverend Abraham Akaka of Hawaii.

It existed even on the battlefield. Senator Daniel Inouye was a proud and decorated member of the legendary 442nd Infantry Regiment. He recalled how he sustained injuries in combat, which resulted in the loss of his arm, and that it was soldiers from the 92nd Division, a segregated African-American unit, who provided him with the blood for the 17 transfusions that kept him alive.

AANHPI history and Black history are inextricably tied together and, in the case of Senator Inouye, a blood bond uniting our two communities together.

#### HONORING CIVIL RIGHTS ICON BARBARA ROSE JOHNS

(Mr. SUBRAMANYAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we honor February as Black History Month.

I think of the students at Waterford's Second Street School in my district, a one-room schoolhouse established 2 years after the end of the Civil War where kids studied under segregation.

I think of Barbara Rose Johns, a civil rights icon from Virginia. Barbara's high school was dilapidated and overcrowded. At just 16, she led her classmates in a walkout, inspiring the Virginia NAACP to sue for integration. The walkout sparked one of five cases reviewed by the Supreme Court in the landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* decision.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that Barbara Johns will soon have a statue just steps from this Chamber, alongside George Washington, representing the Commonwealth of Virginia.

As a country, we have come a long way since Barbara Rose Johns' high school was integrated, but we can't let our country slide back.

We will continue to fight and honor the work and legacies of Barbara Johns and all who fought for a more perfect Union.