

Suzanne is retiring as the Executive Director of the Lee-Russell Council of Governments on May 1st after nearly 25 years with the organization.

Suzanne grew up in West, Texas before moving to Mayfield, Kentucky for her father's new job. She received her Bachelor of Science degree from Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky and her Master's in Public Affairs/Administration from Kentucky State University in Frankfort, Kentucky. She has over 30 years of experience in community and economic development in both the public and private sector.

In 1984, she wrote the State of Alabama's "Community Development Block Grant Program Management and Implementation Manual." Suzanne serves on various boards and committees including the Auburn Lions Club, the Alabama Association of Regional Councils, the National Association of Development Organizations Board, the Southeast Regional Director's Institute, Lee County Habitat for Humanity Board, Auburn and Opelika Chambers of Commerce, Alabama Council on Human Relations and others.

Suzanne is married to Wayne Burnette and lives in Auburn, Alabama. Suzanne and Wayne have two children, April and Miranda.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the retirement of Suzanne Girard Burnette.

RECOGNIZING BARBARA BOYD'S SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY ON HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Barbara Boyd on her 90th birthday.

Barbara is a living legend in the Indianapolis community, and this milestone birthday is the perfect opportunity to recognize her distinguished career in journalism. A true trailblazer in the Indianapolis media market, Barbara was the first African-American female to report and anchor television news in our city. Her impressive career lasted twenty-five years at Channel 6 news, earning her a spot in both the National Association of Black Journalists Hall of Fame and the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame.

She is famously known for a groundbreaking piece highlighting her own struggle with breast cancer in which she addressed the television audience from a hospital bed after undergoing a mastectomy. Barbara was a strong advocate in the fight against breast cancer. Her brave decision to share her personal journey helped educate many people about the disease and inspired people to seek medical care.

Beyond her work in communications, Barbara has long been involved with numerous community and civic groups, including the March of Dimes, the United Negro College Fund, NAACP, and a host of other organizations that helped her leave an indelible mark on our city.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Ms. Barbara Boyd a happy 90th birthday and thanking her for her years of dedi-

cated service. Her work has informed and inspired countless individuals in our community, and her legacy serves as an inspiration to many. She will be treasured for generations to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAXWELL RUTLEDGE ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Maxwell Rutledge of Findlay, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Maxwell's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2023. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Maxwell brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2023. While attending Saint Francis de Sales High School in Toledo, Ohio, Maxwell excelled in several AP courses.

Throughout high school, Maxwell was involved with the varsity swim team. I am confident that Maxwell will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Maxwell Rutledge on his offer of appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Maxwell will excel during his career at West Point, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

FORCED RELIGIOUS CONVERSIONS IN SINDH, PAKISTAN

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, as Chair of the Congressional Caucus on Sindh and Chairman of the Asia Subcommittee in the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I have repeatedly drawn attention to the issue of forced conversions and other human rights abuses in the Sindh province of Pakistan. Today, I reiterate my concerns about the forced conversions of young Sindhi Hindu girls.

On April 29, the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom released its annual report on the world's most egregious violators of religious freedom. The report noted that religious freedom in Pakistan con-

tinued to decline in 2018. The Commission also reported that "Forced conversions of non-Muslims continued despite the passage of the Hindu Marriage Act, which recognizes Hindu family law."

While the numbers are unclear, estimates suggest that each year, several hundred or more girls and young women are abducted, forcibly married, and converted to Islam. There were at least 1,000 cases of forced conversions of Hindu and Christian girls just in Sindh Province in 2018, according to the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan. The actual number is estimated to be much larger as most cases go unreported.

Pakistan's Human Rights Commission also notes that the Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act of 2013, intended to address the issue, has not been enforced effectively. The state's response to forced marriages has been mixed, especially because the police are insensitive and indifferent in most cases. When families report their daughters as missing, this is ignored by the police. Therefore, the abducted girls remain with their abductors, where they are often coerced into silence.

The role of some religious leaders adds to the problem. Mian Mitho, a religious leader and politician, has participated in numerous conversions of young Sindhi girls. He has close connections with the army and the Prime Minister, and this has allowed him to continue his activities.

I urge Pakistan's government to more effectively address the issue of forced abductions, forced marriages, and forced religious conversions in the Sindh province.

CELEBRATING THE AJC CINCINNATI'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the American Jewish Committee of Cincinnati's 75th anniversary on May 2nd.

For three-quarters of a century, the AJC Cincinnati has been a major support system for the Greater Cincinnati Jewish Community and worked to create lasting relationships with people of other faiths, races, and denominations.

I thank the AJC Cincinnati's leadership and members for making a positive interfaith impact on the Cincinnati community.

Congratulations to the AJC Cincinnati on this noteworthy anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAKE STRUCKER ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that