

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## RECOGNIZING THE 101ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC DAY OF AZERBAIJAN

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 101st anniversary of the Republic Day of Azerbaijan, and to extend my best wishes to all Azerbaijanis. May 28th marks the founding of the Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan, when the people of Azerbaijan first gained their independence from the Russian Empire in 1918. Although Azerbaijan's independence was ended by Soviet forces in 1920, the Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan was the world's first secular parliamentary democratic republic in a predominantly Muslim nation—earning diplomatic recognition from the United States during the administration of President Woodrow Wilson. We also recall that the Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan granted universal suffrage to its citizens in 1918, making it the first Muslim country to give women the right to vote.

Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, Azerbaijan restored its independence on October 18, 1991, when its Parliament adopted the Constitution Act on the Restoration of the State of Independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan has emerged as a key player for enhancing global energy security. Azerbaijan also provides roughly 40 percent of Israel's oil consumption and enjoys friendly ties with Israel beyond oil sales.

Jews have resided in Azerbaijan for 2,500 years without persecution and today, the Jewish community in Azerbaijan numbers over 12,000. Azerbaijan is also home to Christian communities and has been praised for its religious tolerance by the European Parliament.

Azerbaijan is a key global security partner for the United States. As an active member of NATO's Partnership for Peace program, Azerbaijan cooperates with the United States in countering terrorism, nuclear proliferation, and narcotics trafficking. Azerbaijani troops serve shoulder to shoulder with U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan, as they previously did in Kosovo and Iraq. In support of the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan, Azerbaijan has extended important over-flight clearances for U.S. and NATO flights as well as regularly providing landing and refueling operations at its airports for U.S. and NATO forces.

As co-chair of the Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus, I stand with the Azerbaijani people as they continue to work towards independence and security as well as to embrace human rights and democratic values. I congratulate the people of Azerbaijan on the centennial of their Republic Day. May the partnership between the United States and Azerbaijan progress and continue to benefit both of our nations.

## RECOGNIZING DENNIS "D.J." JEWELL

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Dennis "D.J." Jewell for receiving the Governor's Initiative for Volunteer Excellence Award in the Outstanding Volunteer Service by a U.S. Veteran category.

D.J., a resident of Columbus, Mississippi, was a past commander for VFW Post No. 4272 and completed over 1,000 community service hours in 2018. As a veteran, one of his main concerns is the mental health of fellow service members, specifically veterans suicide rates. To prevent this issue in his community, Jewell established a monthly support group for combat veterans at the VFW and has also traveled to Washington, D.C. to advocate for mental health support for veterans.

I am honored to have the privilege to represent outstanding servicemen such as D.J. His selfless service to our country extends past his military career as he continues to go above and beyond for Mississippians each day. It is individuals like him that make Mississippi, and America, great.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, had I been present for roll call vote No. 232 on Senate Amendment to H.R. 2157—Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019, I would have voted yes on the measure.

## RECOGNIZING THE GOREVILLE HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' SOFTBALL TEAM

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Goreville High School girls' softball team on winning the 2019 Illinois Class 1A championship. Goreville overcame the Glasford Illini Bluffs by a score of 4–2 in seven innings. This win marked the season with a 29–9 overall record for the Blackcats.

The team's overall tenacity and determination were observed through the commanding victories during postseason action. Throughout all of the postseason bracket games, the lady Blackcats scored over 70 runs as a team,

causing many games to end early due to the run rule. This is Goreville's second state championship title in three years.

Head Coach Shanna Green conditioned the team with a spirit of competition and passion of working for one another. In the championship game, the Blackcats only committed one error and batted an impressive .346 as a team.

It is an honor for me to extend my profound congratulations to the entire team which includes Abigail King, Kelsey Ray, Miley Kwiatkowski, Emma Vaughn, Kyleigh Massey, Ellie Grammer, Cheyenne Walker, Chloe Wolaver, Alexandria King, Adrianna Licka, Destani Bennett, Samantha Licka, and Payton Sopczak.

Madam Speaker, the athletes, coaching staff, and the community should be proud of their accomplishments. I wish the graduating seniors the best in their future endeavors and best of luck to those returning for a chance of a third state title in four years.

## IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2019 OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BREAKFAST ON THE FARM HOSTED BY STEFFENS DAIRY FARM

**HON. MIKE GALLAGHER**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tradition of Breakfast on the Farm in Outagamie County.

Breakfast on the Farm is an iconic Wisconsin tradition that provides the community an opportunity to see first-hand how a dairy farm operates and learn about the significant role the dairy industry plays in Wisconsin's economy. Community members meet dairy farmers, explore the barns and equipment, and enjoy a delicious meal prepared on the farm.

Outagamie County Dairy Promotion organizes the annual Breakfast on the Farm by recruiting host farms, sponsors, and volunteers to support this terrific event. In addition, Outagamie County Dairy Promotion provides educational opportunities to the community to increase awareness of Wisconsin's dairy industry and the products produced by area dairy farmers.

I am grateful to Steffens Dairy Farm for hosting the 2019 Outagamie County Breakfast on the Farm. Steffens Dairy Farm was established in 1971 when Joe Steffens purchased farmland in Seymour. Since 2004, the farm has been maintained by his wife, Lorraine, and sons, Dan and Steve. Today, Steffens Dairy Farm, LLC milks 120 cows and manages over 280 acres of crop land. Always pursuing innovative practices, the Steffens equipped their barn with two Lely Robotic milkers, resulting in cleaner, healthier, and more comfortable cattle.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in commending the efforts of

• 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.

Breakfast on the Farm to educate the community through this time-honored tradition. Thank you to the Steffens, Outagamie County Dairy Promotion, and the countless sponsors and volunteers for their continued support of Wisconsin's dairy industry.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TIANANMEN SQUARE MASSACRE

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 30th Anniversary of the Tiananmen Square Massacre.

Starting on April 18, 1989 thousands of students marched through Tiananmen Square calling for a more democratic government and protesting China's Communist government. An estimated 1 million people joined the protests in Tiananmen Square and citizens in over 400 Chinese cities staged protests.

After months of protests, late in the afternoon of June 3 thousands of troops moved onto Tiananmen Square and fired into crowds throughout the night into June 4. The People's Republic of China has still not admitted to how many people were killed by the military but despite the Chinese government downplaying the number killed, it was likely in the thousands.

The Chinese government has tried to erase this tragedy from history in order to uphold its Communist regime's legitimacy.

The Chinese government continues to violate the human rights of its citizens including putting millions of members of its Uyghur minority into "re-education" camps and continuing suppression of democratic voices throughout China.

We must continue to commit ourselves to supporting the values for which the victims of Tiananmen Square Massacre gave their lives.

CONGRATULATING MR. AND MRS. CARL AND JANET BREWER'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. and Mrs. Carl and Janet Brewer and congratulate them on their 50th Wedding Anniversary. The Brewers will celebrate this incredible milestone anniversary on June 14, 2019.

Carl and Janet both grew up in St. Louis, Missouri. They married at age 16 and have been by each other's side ever since. The couple eventually moved to Lohman, Missouri then to Wardsville where they still reside today. Both dedicated their lives to public service and the betterment of our community while working for the Missouri Department of Revenue. Carl's dedication as a public servant did not start and stop there. His service in our

military and as a policeman at the John Cochran Hospital and Jefferson Barracks is a perfect example of a man who put the lives of his neighbors and fellow Americans before his own.

Now, both retired from the Missouri Department of Revenue, Carl and Janet most enjoy spending time with what they consider their proudest accomplishment: their family. They have been blessed with a son, Carl Brewer II and daughter, Stephanie Brewer Palmer. Stephanie and her husband Jason have given the Brewers the greatest gift a family can receive with the birth of their granddaughter, Miranda.

When they aren't spending time with their family, the Brewers can often be found at Solid Rock Family Church in Jefferson City where they attend service each Sunday and Wednesday. Along with their congregation and family, I thank the Brewers for their many contributions to Missouri and our community.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Carl and Janet Brewer on their 50th Wedding Anniversary. May they have many more happy years to come.

OATH CEREMONY ON JUNE 7, 2019

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate thirty individuals who will take their oaths of citizenship on June 7, 2019. This memorable occasion will be held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On June 7, 2019, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Ewa Szczepanik, Marcin Jan Kryczka, Martha Cecilia Meadows, Daewon Sun, Shams Khalaf, Negma H. Scott, Nosratollah Rezaee, Sonia Miramontes, Maria Reyes-Arellano, Brandi Jennifer Ellinger, Scepán Kovacevic, Eduardo de Freitas Ferreira, Lian Gu, Vicente Mauricio Gonzaga Gonzaga, Eric Coria Garcia, Sladan Alempijevic, Denise Alejandra Godinez, Samuel Assam, Claudia Gillies, Mark William Gillies, Wanpeng Tan, Erasto Lopez Lecona, Delun Shi, Milene Hurtado, Guang Dai, Emma Garza, Gintaras Bansevicius, Ancy Isac George, Jose Rodolfo Moreno, and Jose G. Londono.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupa-

tion, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country "... of the people, by the people, and for the people." They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who will become citizens of the United States of America on June 7, 2019. They, too, are American citizens, guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

REMEMBERING THOMAS A. CAHILL

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 04, 2019*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and service of Thomas A. Cahill, a member of the University of California, Davis community for over 45 years who embodied the American spirit of innovation and enduring dedication to his family and community.

Born on March 4, 1937, Thomas grew up in Sudbury, Massachusetts and earned his Ph.D. in nuclear physics from University of California, Los Angeles. In 1967, Thomas joined U.C. Davis' Crocker Nuclear Laboratory, where he conducted research for the Pioneer and Voyager spacecraft before beginning his work on California air quality. The aerosol and visibility network he developed as the director of Crocker Nuclear Laboratory improved the health of millions of Californians and expanded into the current nationwide IMPROVE program, widely considered the network of its kind in the world.

Beyond his scientific contributions, Thomas served as the thesis advisor to over two dozen Ph.D. students, published eight books, and donated 196 acres of land to the U.C. Natural Reserve System as the Cahill Riparian Preserve. For his work, U.C. Davis awarded Thomas the Academic Public Service Award in 1994 and the Outstanding Emeritus Professor Award in 2014. Following his retirement in 1994, Thomas continued his work on aerosols, including testimony before Congress on pollutant levels caused by the collapse of the World Trade Center. Even while ill, Thomas developed an ultrafine aerosol sampler to help people living near freeways. His contributions to science and public health established a legacy that will endure for many years to come.

He is survived by his wife Ginny; children Cathy and Tom; sister Barbara; and nieces and nephews. I know that they, along with the rest of his extended family and friends, join me in celebrating his life and his memory.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAMELA  
ADAMS' LIFE AND LEGACY

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pamela Adams for her lifetime of service. Mrs. Adams passed away on May 9, 2019 which greatly saddened our community. Her work to expand access to high-quality education is worthy of commendation.

A lifelong resident of Dearborn, Michigan, Pamela Adams graduated from Edsel Ford High School and attended Henry Ford Community College. After working at Ford Motor Company for a short period, Mrs. Adams began her significant work in service of education. Mrs. Adams held various positions in the Dearborn School Board, Wayne County Association of School Boards, and served on the Henry Ford College Board of Trustees for 18 years. During her tenure on the Board of Trustees, Pamela Adams contributed to several key decisions. She was instrumental in the successful 2002 bond which brought four new schools to Dearborn, and formed the award-winning Henry Ford Collegiate Academy, a program where Dearborn students can earn both a high school diploma and an associate degree in 5 years at no cost.

Pamela Adams' life stands as a role model of selfless service and demonstrates a tremendous love for her community. Beloved for her generosity and compassion, Mrs. Adams' reputation is a testament to the significant impact she had on the city of Dearborn and its residents. We are grateful for Mrs. Adams' commitment to increasing access to high-quality education. Her efforts have dramatically expanded the educational opportunities for residents of the state of Michigan and will continue to impact future students' lives.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Pamela Adams for a lifetime of service to her community. We are grateful for her dedicated work as a member of the Henry Ford College Board of Trustees, her compassion and leadership will be greatly missed.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHIEF  
COLABE III

**HON. BRIAN BABIN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mikko Colabe III Clem Fain Sylestine, the principal chief of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas who passed away on May 21, 2019 at 91 years old.

Chief Colabe III was born on November 4, 1927, on the Alabama-Coushatta Indian Reservation and is of the Granddaddy Long Legs Clan. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Austin College in Sherman, Texas in 1952. Chief Colabe III was a teacher and coach at Southmayd High School, Holland High School, Shepherd High School, Woodville ISD, and Goodrich ISD. Although he retired in 1988, Chief Colabe III touched so many lives throughout his time in education.

In addition to the passion he had for educating children, Chief Colabe III was a distin-

guished tribal leader for most of his adult life. He served as an elected Tribal Council member and then served as its chairman for many years. He assumed his chieftainship role in 1995 as the second chief and was elected as the principal chief in 2014. In serving as the principal chief, he followed in the footsteps of his father, Bronson Cooper Sylestine, who served as the chief from 1936 to 1969. Chief Colabe III was a direct descendant of Chief Colabe, who served as the second chief to Principal Chief Antone in the early 1800s. He also was an elder in the Indian Village Presbyterian Church on the Alabama-Coushatta Reservation.

As I join the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe in their period of mourning through the end of 2019, I want to recognize the impact that Chief Colabe III had on many East Texas communities. The Alabama-Coushatta Tribe is an integral part of East Texas, large in part because of Chief Colabe III's passion, leadership, and hard work for the people he cared so deeply for.

Madam Speaker, my prayers and condolences are with the family, friends, and Tribe of Chief Colabe III.

CONGRATULATING THE REPUBLIC  
OF AZERBAIJAN ON ITS 101ST  
REPUBLIC DAY

**HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Republic of Azerbaijan on its 101st Republic Day. On May 28, 1918, the Republic of Azerbaijan was formed, becoming the first democracy in the Muslim world. Unfortunately, just a few short years later, Azerbaijan was invaded by the Russian Red Army in 1920 and was subsequently occupied by the Soviet Union.

After the Soviet Union's collapse in 1991, Azerbaijan regained its independence and has been a key international partner of the United States ever since. Together, the United States and Azerbaijan continue to work as partners in combating terrorism and transnational threats. Azerbaijan has played a vital role in assisting our NATO allies and has supported U.S. operations overseas, particularly in Afghanistan.

Azerbaijan is an important ally in bolstering European energy security—therefore, it is imperative that the United States continue to support initiatives such as the Southern Gas Corridor, which routes natural gas from Azerbaijan to Europe. Azerbaijan is a key partner in securing U.S. interests in the region.

Madam Speaker, it is for these reasons that I urge all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Azerbaijan on the 101st anniversary of its Republic Day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. VICKY HARTZLER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, on Monday, June 3, 2019, I was unable to vote on roll

call no. 233. If I had been present, I would have voted NO.

MEMORIAL HONORING ST. LOUIS  
POET LAUREATE SHIRLEY  
LEFLORE

**HON. WM. LACY CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American poet who, as a child, fell in love with words and turned that love of words into a life's work.

On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12, 2019, my dear friend, Shirley Bradley Price LeFlore passed into ancestry. She was 79. Her passing gave Mother's Day "a new meaning," one daughter said in a local media report. A Celebration of Life and Homegoing Service was held on Friday, May 17 at Christ Church Cathedral, in St. Louis, Mo., where many came and paid loving homage to her life and her works. The visitation and service included numerous speakers, musicians, dancers, family, friends and fellow poets.

To her dear daughters—Hope Lindsay of Silver Springs, Md., Jacie Price of St. Louis and Lyah LeFlore-Itnen of St. Louis—the depths of my sadness at her loss moves me beyond the ties of friendship. She was like family. I pray for heavenly grace for her family: her daughters, a niece Karen Bohr and four grandchildren—Noelle Lindsay-Stewart, Jullian Price-Baez, Jordan Lindsay and Bella Grace Ituen—and all who loved and honored her.

Shirley has been interwoven into the fabric of St. Louis, Mo., this nation and the world. She has shared her love of poetry, writing and many talents with the rest of us, and we are better off because of her.

On November 9, 2018, Shirley LeFlore was named St. Louis' second Poet Laureate. She was the first African-American and woman so honored. The event was held in St. Louis City Hall, with Ms. LeFlore surrounded by family, friends and admirers.

At the time Poet Michael Castro, St. Louis' first Poet Laureate called the honor "the capstone" of a long career; a career The St. Louis Post-Dispatch noted that spanned some 50 years of "performing, mentoring and teaching." As her story was told and retold, one discovers that not only did she find poetry in everything, she lived a poetic life.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch covered the City Hall event and on November 17, published a story about her appointment. Reporter Jane Henderson noted Ms. LeFlore's life journey and how she was led by the power of words to international fame. "As a girl," Henderson wrote, "she listened to women in her mother's beauty shop as they told stories. She listened in as strangers gossiped on streetcars, when churchgoers talked and when female relatives chatted at the kitchen table. Young Shirley would make up plays about some of the people she'd overheard and started writing in grade school. As an adult, she turned talk into an art, becoming a pioneer in spoken-word poetry in St. Louis."

At City Hall, President of the Board of Aldermen Lewis Reed presented the honor to Ms. LeFlore. And Castro, who has known Ms. LeFlore since the 1970s, called her an "iconic

and loved figure.” He told the Post-Dispatch: “Her performances were very memorable. She had a strong presence and charisma. She read her poems kind of with a jazz beat. Her poems were not like anyone else’s, full of rich imagery.”

Madam Speaker, that career includes more than 50 years of performing, mentoring and teaching. Some call her a “wordsmith” and others call her a “word warrior,” noted Alderman Terry Kennedy, a longtime friend. He read part of her poem “Rivers of Women” noting that her writing cause people to “think differently.”

Born, Shirley Bradley Price in 1940 in St. Louis, Ms. LeFlore graduated from Sumner High School and attended Lincoln University before graduating from then Webster College and later from Washington University with a degree in psychology. Among her many achievements, she is founder of the Creative Arts and Expressions Lab, was an original member of the Black Artists Group (co-founded with her late husband, jazz musician Floyd LeFlore) and another underground activists poetry organization called Harmony.

An artist-in-residence at University City public schools, she taught at several colleges including Lindenwood University, Webster University, Harris-Stowe State University and the University of Missouri-St. Louis. As an assistant dean of students at Webster she inspired students such as “Black-ish” actress Jenifer Lewis, who credits LeFlore with having “saved my life,” the Post-Dispatch reported.

Though getting on in age, “She’s always had an intergenerational perspective,” said her daughter, Lyah LeFlore-Ituen, in the news article. “She wants to inspire young poets.”

“The fire is still there,” and as poet laureate, LeFlore can be an inspiration to young people, her daughter added.

A TV producer and writer, her daughter directed “Rivers of Women” for the Missouri History Museum. She called her mother a “living legend” and is working on a documentary about her. Also, she helped compile her mother’s 2013 book, “Brassbones & Rainbows.”

Among the greats she performed with include saxophonist Oliver Lake, trumpeter David Jackson and singer Fontella Bass. People flocked to hear her read at St. Louis’ Duffs restaurant as part of the River Styx artist series. Her mentors and influences include poet Margaret Walker, writer Gwendolyn Brooks, poet Sonia Sanchez, playwright and poet Ntozake Shange and author James Baldwin.

In New York she performed at the Nuyorican Poets Café and at Weill Hall, a part of Carnegie Hall. And her works have been presented as plays, including “Deliverance,” a production centered on HIV/AIDS.

Poet Amina Baraka has called Ms. LeFlore a “literary griot, writing and telling stories, creating lyrics we can sing and dance to.” Other honors include: the Warrior Poet Award, a board member for Word in Motion, featured in another documentary “Word Warriors III” and other anthologies.

Her activism of the 1960s led her to March on Washington and to join the Poor People’s Campaign. Politics became a part of her poetry. But it was the voices heard in her youth that set the stage for the rest of her life and career.

Last fall Poet Laureate LeFlore was featured in The St. Louis American newspaper, and later reproduced by St. Louis Public Radio.

The article noted she toured the world, playing venues both large and small, from Powell Symphony Hall in St. Louis to “quaint . . . tiny . . . churches” or a “hole in the wall” nightclub or lounge.”

“Some of the places I’ve gone, you wouldn’t want anybody to know you went there to read poetry,” LeFlore said. “But if people asked me, I would go.” “If you’re serious about what you do, keep doing it, keep studying it, keep mastering it and let it live inside you.” And “Listen—especially when you first start out. You need to listen.” It was her listening—her eavesdropping on her mother’s beauty salon clients—that caught her ear and helped shaped her poetry in the years to come.

“They thought I was sitting around playing jacks, but I would be listening,” to the way they talked, what they said, LeFlore told the American. Later, she would go home and write in her black and white composition book, noting that often the way they said things was more striking than what they said. Over time she would note that black people have a “special way with language—in every part of the world—but especially in St. Louis.”

Of her funeral on May 17, 2019, the American reported the near-capacity homegoing service for “Saint Shirley” at Christ Church Cathedral “stretched nearly four hours.” Accolades and memories were offered from speakers from far and near, among them poets, actors, writers and politicians. Actor and writer Kevin Powell called her a “supernatural word warrior” created from “black girl magic.”

Poet Laureate of East St. Louis Eugene Redmond said LeFlore ranked among the great jazz poets for her ability to turn musical form and history into “the cross-fertilization” of literary musical forms and techniques, he said. “She eloped with language and stayed married to music all her days.”

And while people of faith offered words of tribute, LeFlore’s own poems, spoken by the living meant LeFlore “essentially eulogized herself,” the American’s Kenya Vaughn wrote.

Daughter Hope Price-Lindsay said she grew up wanting a mother more like television’s “Leave it to Beaver’s” June Cleaver but instead got Ms. LeFlore, an Afrocentric artist who remained true to her craft, whether life served her “caviar and champagne” or “bone soup.” We learned that LeFlore inherited her poetry from her mother, who inherited it from her mother, who inherited from her mother.

Retired 18th Ward Alderman Terry Kennedy spoke again at her funeral, having grown up with Ms. LeFlore and calling her “a mighty spirit amongst us” who was “small in stature, big at heart.” He comforted guests with Ms. LeFlore’s own words from her poem, “Breathprints.”

“Light a candle for me,” he recited. “Say a prayer. Whisper me into the wind. Lay a love wreath on the altar of your heart and remember my good days amongst you. Weep if you must. It’s good to unburden your tears, but make brief your grief.

“Let the joy of my laughter comfort you,” Kennedy continued in her words. “My spirit will be the music above your head, my love like the wind beneath your wings to lift you in your weary years so that you may see the sunrise. All is well with my soul.”

Madam Speaker, today I give to Congress and the people of America, a glimpse into the life and times of a world-renown and respected poet from St. Louis, Missouri, and her

vision for seeing, touching, feeling the world around us—St. Louis Poet Laureate Shirley LeFlore.

I urge members of Congress to join me in honoring the life and career of St. Louis Poet Laureate Ms. Shirley LeFlore and her art of language and her expression in words, of our life and times. May she rest in peace.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF CRESTVIEW HIGH SCHOOL KNIGHTS ON THEIR 2019 OHSAA BOYS STATE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to recognize the Crestview High School Knights of Convoy, Ohio on their victory in the 2019 OHSAA boys state basketball tournament. This was their second championship in five years.

The Crestview Knights completed a historic season with an unexpected win. After a challenging semifinal, the Crestview Knights were considered the underdogs, heading into the championship ranked below their opponent, Berlin Hiland. In the end, they dominated with a 58–38 win, holding Berlin Hiland to 21 points below its season average.

The community of Convoy should be very proud of this team’s hard work and dedication. Congratulations to Coach Best and the Knights on their state title.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF OZONE HOUSE FOR 50 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ozone House for their exemplary work assisting homeless youth in the state of Michigan. For 50 years, they have provided comprehensive support services for some of the most vulnerable members of our community.

Founded in 1969, Ozone House is a community-based, non-profit agency that provides support services to youth in crisis and their families in Washtenaw County, Michigan. They offer high-quality housing and aid programs designed to assist runaway, homeless, and high-risk youth in the community. Through Ozone House’s programs, these individuals develop essential life skills, improve their interpersonal relationships, and enhance their self-image in order to lead productive, happy lives. Ozone House’s critical efforts have solidified its role as a model of effective care across the nation.

Ozone House’s continued work has been vital to addressing the needs of vulnerable youth in the Washtenaw community, and has received several awards for their dedication. Beyond the need for food and shelter, homeless youth are at greater risk of being victims of human trafficking and assault. Ozone House’s intensive intervention and preventive

services provide these individuals the stability to lead safe, healthy, and productive lives. We thank Ozone House for their commitment to supporting and protecting homeless youth. Their work embodies the duty we have to our community and to empower those most in need.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ozone House for 50 years of distinguished service. Their efforts to support homeless and high-risk youth in the Washtenaw community is worthy of commendation.

RECOGNIZING COMMAND CHIEF  
MASTER SERGEANT MELANIE K.  
NOEL

**HON. LARRY BUCSHON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, today I wish to recognize and congratulate a tremendous Airman and native of Vincennes, Indiana, Command Chief Master Sergeant Melanie K. Noel, on the occasion of her retirement from the U.S. Air Force after 27 years of distinguished military service to this great Nation.

Chief Master Sergeant Noel's outstanding career has culminated with her final assignment as the Command Chief Master Sergeant for the Air Force District of Washington. Chief Noel represents the highest enlisted executive level of leadership in the Air Force District of Washington and advises the commanding general on all issues regarding the readiness, training, welfare, morale, proper utilization, and progress of more than 40,000 Air Force military and civilian members in more than 500 locations across 108 countries. Prior to assuming her current position, Chief Noel faithfully served as the 6th Air Mobility Wing's Command Chief Master Sergeant and was also the Senior Enlisted Advisor for the U.S. Air Force's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office.

Chief Master Sergeant Noel entered the U.S. Air Force on April 9, 1992 as a security forces specialist and was later chosen for retraining into the field of personnel administration. Her honorable service has spanned numerous overseas and stateside assignments including two European countries, three States, the District of Columbia, and a deployment in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. In 2006, Chief Noel was competitively selected to become a First Sergeant, spending several years caring for the service's newest Airmen at the "Gateway to the Air Force." Recognizing her leadership potential, the Air Force continued to challenge her with increased responsibilities as an instructor at the U.S. Air Force First Sergeants Academy. Excelling in this demanding position, Chief Noel taught fellow senior noncommissioned officers the intricacies of equitable discipline, professional development, and esprit de corps. Her superb performance at the First Sergeants Academy garnered the attention of Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James Roy, who selected Chief Noel to become the service's first-ever Enlisted Legislative Fellow in the Nation's Capital.

As a true testament to Chief Master Sergeant Noel's exceptional career, she served

as not only the U.S. Air Force's first Enlisted Legislative Fellow but also its sole enlisted representative on Capitol Hill in 2013. During this period, Chief Noel was assigned to the office of Representative Niki Tsongas from Massachusetts. With the Congresswoman's position as Ranking Member on the House Armed Services Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee, Chief Noel played a key role as her lead staffer during the headline-making Benghazi hearings. Moreover, she worked diligently to increase congressional awareness of impacts to both the Department of Defense and national security community caused by the 2013 federal government shutdown. Finally, her tireless efforts were critical to the bipartisan passage and implementation of the 2014 National Defense Authorization Act.

Chief Master Sergeant Noel clearly epitomizes the finest qualities of a military leader. Throughout her tenure, she has been instrumental in advocating for Airmen across the globe while strengthening the total force team through innovative solutions, focused resiliency, and exceptional leadership development. Her unrivaled expertise and exemplary professionalism have further resulted in numerous accolades, including the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Air Force Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, as well as annual award recognition at the squadron, group, and wing levels within the U.S. Air Force. Additionally, Chief Noel was the recipient of the Distinguished Honor Graduate Award at the Joint Special Operations Forces Senior Enlisted Academy.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress and a grateful Nation, I extend our deepest appreciation to Chief Master Sergeant Melanie K. Noel for her many years of extraordinary dedication and selfless military service. There is no question that the U.S. Air Force, Department of Defense, and United States have significantly benefited from Chief Noel's visionary leadership and devotion to the cause of freedom. I wish nothing but the very best for her and her family in the future.

CONGRATULATING EVERETT  
WHITCHER ON WINNING THE CITIZEN  
OF THE YEAR AWARD  
THROUGH THE KEWANEE CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Everett Whitcher for winning the Citizen of the Year Award through the Kewanee Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Whitcher's dedication to organizations in the Kewanee community is admirable.

Mr. Whitcher is a graduate of Wethersefield High School and went on to pursue his career in the grocery business. Since 1989, Mr. Whitcher has been the owner of the Super Value grocery store, which is now Save-A-Lot in Kewanee, Illinois. In 2015, Mr. Whitcher needed to keep up with the demands of the community so he moved his Kewanee store to a bigger location on South Main Street where he expanded his food and meat inventory. Mr.

Whitcher is an active participant in the local community and has contributed a great deal to Kewanee's economy. In addition to running his business, he assists all the food pantries in Kewanee and donates pet food to the Humane Society. Mr. Whitcher has been an active member of the Kiwanis Club since 2007 and serves on the Board of Directors in a continued effort to give back to his neighbors. I admire Mr. Whitcher's service to the community and thank him for his many contributions as he accepts the Citizen of the Year Award.

It is because of community leaders like Mr. Whitcher that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Everett Whitcher for winning the Citizen of the Year Award given by the Kewanee Chamber of Commerce.

RECOGNIZING THE ST. AUGUSTINE  
ART ASSOCIATION

**HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the St. Augustine Art Association (STAAA) on the 95th anniversary of its founding in 1924.

Founded by Spanish explorers in 1565, St. Augustine, Florida, is the oldest continuously inhabited European-established settlement in the continental United States, making it our nation's first city. The STAAA plays an integral role in preserving and promoting the artistic heritage of St. Augustine, and has been described as the epicenter of the local art community. The STAAA Art Center is open year-round and is free to the public, welcoming roughly 10,000 visitors annually. Its gallery hosts exhibitions, concerts, workshops, classes, lectures, and other art-related events. More than 1,000 artists of all backgrounds display their artwork during the gallery's season of juried exhibitions. These contemporary artists make up St. Augustine's present-day art colony.

The STAAA outreach programs serve many, including the blind, local public school students, and patients and caregivers at Flagler Hospital. Additionally, elder groups, community businesses, and others all benefit from STAAA's user-friendly gallery in the heart of St. Augustine. I am pleased to recognize STAAA for its contributions to our unique local culture, history, and community.

RECOGNIZING THE BICENTENNIAL  
OF VANDALIA, ILLINOIS

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Vandalia, Illinois, which is celebrating its bicentennial this year.

Located in Fayette County, Vandalia was the state's first capital city. Situated on the Kaskaskia River, the Illinois General Assembly first met in Vandalia in December 1820. At the time, the state treasurer transacted business

at his home, while the auditor and secretary of state worked in the brick building that housed the state bank.

The first capitol building was destroyed by fire in 1823 and a second capitol building was built in haste the following summer. Two years later people refused to enter the building for fear it would collapse, and so a third capitol building was constructed, which is the one that stands today.

Abraham Lincoln began his political career in Vandalia in 1834, and five years later the Illinois General Assembly met for the last time in the Vandalia Statehouse. In one of its final acts, the legislature deeded the building to Fayette County and the town of Vandalia. The State of Illinois purchased the old statehouse and public square in 1918 to ensure its preservation for future generations, and in the decades following carried out a major effort to restore the building to its Lincoln-era appearance.

Madam Speaker, with four days of activities planned, the celebration promises to highlight the city's rich history. It is an honor to recognize the City of Vandalia as it celebrates its bicentennial, and I wish it all the best for the future.

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IN HONOR OF JANE LAIRD FOR  
HER EXEMPLARY SERVICE

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jane Laird for her exceptional service to the United States of America. Mrs. Laird's instrumental role as a Rosie, riveting during World War II, is worthy of commendation.

The daughter of a coalminer, Jane Laird was born in Bearcreek, Montana. In 1943, before she could graduate high school, Mrs. Laird moved to Dearborn, Michigan to work for the Ford Motor Company. During World War II, she helped construct the B-24 bomber, The Liberator, riveting the cockpit of the aircraft. Mrs. Laird's efforts as a riveter at Ford Motor Company highlight the many significant contributions of young women during World War II. After riveting for the Ford Motor Company, Jane Laird worked part time at E.J. Korvette, where she remained until her retirement.

Jane Laird's work embodies the duty we have to our community and our nation. A breast cancer survivor, Mrs. Laird stands as a model of strength, sacrifice, and service. Her generation's critical contribution to progress will always be remembered. Beloved for her sense of humor and tenacity, Mrs. Laird will finally receive her high school diploma this weekend. We thank Jane Laird for her instrumental work as a riveter and congratulate her on her graduation. We are grateful for her dedicated service to this nation.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Jane Laird for her exemplary service as a riveter. Her graduation this weekend stands as a testament to the dedication, perseverance, and sacrifice she has displayed over her lifetime.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF KAREN  
COMSTOCK OF CHINO

**HON. NORMA J. TORRES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mrs. TORRES of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Chief Karen Comstock of the Chino Police Department. After almost 35 years of public service and dedication to the Chino community, she is finally retiring and will be sorely missed.

Chief Comstock honorably rose through the ranks of the Chino Police Department. Beginning her career in 1985, she served as a cadet and reserve officer for five years before being brought on as an official police officer. Comstock held many other positions including field training officer, patrol supervisor, and detective bureau supervisor, as well as serving at the Criminal Investigations Bureau as a detective and as a member of the Crisis Negotiations Team.

In recognition of her excellent leadership, Comstock was promoted to Chief in 2014. She served as Chino Police Department's first female police chief and is now retiring as one of only 22 female police chiefs in California. Chief Comstock not only established standards of excellence, but also carved out new pathways for future female leaders in the Chino Police Department.

Chief Comstock was not only a leader within the Chino Police Department, but also served as a mentor in the community, committing more than 14 years to Chino Police Department's Explorer Program to assist young adults with entering law enforcement careers.

She has left a lasting mark on the Chino Police Department. As a lifelong citizen of Chino, she has demonstrated bravery, dedication and loyalty to her hometown and profession—earning her the esteem of the men and women of the Chino Police Department and the community at large.

For her remarkable accomplishments, it is my honor to recognize Chief Karen Comstock on the House floor today. Her decades of commitment and contributions to the City of Chino are worthy of admiration.

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2019 MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST  
POINT APPOINTEES

**HON. KEN BUCK**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rudolph Caleb Churchill and Edward Custy, Military Academy at West Point Appointees from Colorado's Fourth Congressional District. I believe America's greatest assets are our brave men and women in uniform. These individuals are making an incredible sacrifice for our country and deserve our utmost support for their service. It is with great pleasure that I give Rudolph and Edward my endorsement to attend this prestigious institution.

Our nation owes no greater debt of gratitude than to those who fight to protect our freedom and liberty. I commend these young people and their families for their commitment. On be-

half of the Fourth Congressional District of Colorado, it is an honor to recognize Rudolph Caleb Churchill and Edward Custy as appointees to the United States Military Academy at West Point for their commitment to protect and serve our nation.

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RECOGNIZING THE TEUTOPOLIS  
HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Teutopolis High School baseball team on winning the 2019 Illinois Class 2A championship. Teutopolis defeated Pleasant Plains 12-6 for the title, capping a 28-8-1 season for the Wooden Shoes.

The team's dedication and hard work were evident again, as the Wooden Shoes advanced to the state championship game for the third straight season and added a second title to the one captured in 2017. Head Coach Justin Fleener formed a team with both high production in the batter's box and resilient defense in the field.

I extend my sincere congratulations to the entire team: Mitch Hemmen, Mitch Hardiek, Brady McMahon, Trenton Schwerdt, Tyler Runde, Andy Niebrugge, Justin Hardiek, Derek Deters, Evan Addis, Hayden Ruhoff, Dawson Smith, Evan Wermert, Brock Deters, Matt Deters, Clint Weber, Brayden Will, Luke Ungrund, and Dylan Overbeck.

Madam Speaker, the players, coaches, and the entire community of Teutopolis should be very proud of their accomplishments. I wish the graduating seniors the best in their future ventures and good luck to those who will return for a chance to make it back-to-back championships next season.

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CELEBRATING THE 2019 GIANT NA-  
TIONAL CAPITAL BARBECUE  
BATTLE

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the Giant National Capital Barbecue Battle. This event, sponsored by Giant, has become a Washington summertime tradition. It takes place in the first full week of summer each year and brings together tens of thousands of Washington area families and visitors to the nation's capital in the spirit of unity, community and celebration. This year, the celebration will take place on June 22-23, 2019.

The Giant Barbecue Battle event has raised millions of dollars for District of Columbia charities and USO-Metro over the past 26 years, along with countless donations to area food banks.

The Giant National Capital Barbecue Battle features the Giant National BBQ Championship, the National Pork BBQ Championship, the Smokin' with Smithfield Rib Contest, the Perdue Sizzlin' Chicken Contest, the Turkey

Smoke BBQ Cooking Contest, the True Aussie Lamb Contest and the Nation's Best BBQ Sauce Contest.

In honor of the event, I also want to recognize the participants, who represent some of the District's and the Nation's best BBQ talent, cooking in the spirit of competitive barbecue. Its participants have the honor of representing the District wherever other State Barbecue Cooking Championship winners are welcomed.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the Giant National Capital Barbecue Battle as "The Official National Barbecue Championship and the official kick-off of summer in our Nation's Capital" and in wishing its participants the best of luck.

IN HONOR OF DEARBORN, MICHIGAN'S 95TH MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the sacrifice of our nation's servicemembers at Dearborn's 95th Memorial Day Parade. On this day of remembrance, we recognize our veterans for their selflessness and courage.

Organized by the Dearborn Allied War Veterans Council and the City of Dearborn, the city's Memorial Day Parade is one of the largest in the United States and the oldest continuous parade in the state of Michigan. The ceremony draws the Dearborn community together to honor those that have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our country. This year, the event recognizes Gold Star families and honors the many nameless soldiers who have died in service of this country. This tribute serves as an important reminder of the patriotic sacrifice of the families of our servicemembers.

The contributions of our veterans embody the duty we have to our community through tireless work, compassion, and leadership. On Memorial Day, we honor their selfless public service, and remember those who have given their lives in service of our country. On this day we reaffirm our commitment to supporting our veterans as they continue to protect our nation and commend their families for their sacrifice. We thank our brave servicemembers for their selflessness and sacrifice, and we are grateful for their commitment to serving the American people abroad and at home.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the many servicemen and women of our nation for their distinguished service. I wish the Dearborn 95th Memorial Day Parade a successful celebration to mark this special occasion.

CONGRATULATING AMBER PATCH-TROXELL ON WINNING THE OUTSTANDING CITIZEN AWARD THROUGH THE KEWANEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

### HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Amber Patch-Troxell for winning the Meritorious Service Award through the Kewanee Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Patch-Troxell's dedication to the Kewanee community is admirable, and I commend her for winning this award.

Ms. Patch-Troxell graduated from Wethersfield High School in 1999 and went on to pursue a career in insurance. She has been with Farmers Insurance for 11 years, and is an asset to the Kewanee community. So much so that she has been recognized in the community already by receiving the Elks Club Citizen of the Year award and the Kewanee Park District's Child's Best Friend award. Ms. Patch-Troxell also started Patchy's Toy Drive and has provided Christmas gifts to children and teenagers in need in the community, while also providing a helping hand to families who are faced with loss due to fire or a medical emergency. Her fundraising events have become community happenings where her kindness and generosity have not gone unnoticed. I admire Mr. Witcher's service to Kewanee and thank her for her many contributions to the community.

It is because of community leaders like Ms. Patch-Troxell that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Amber Patch-Troxell for winning the Meritorious Service Award given by the Kewanee Chamber of Commerce.

2019 NAVAL ACADEMY APPOINTEES

### HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nathan Mitchell and John Moroney, Naval Academy Appointees from Colorado's Fourth Congressional District. I believe America's greatest assets are our brave men and women in uniform. These individuals are making an incredible sacrifice for our country and deserve our utmost support for their service. It is with great pleasure that I give Nathan and John my endorsement to attend this prestigious institution.

Our nation owes no greater debt of gratitude than to those who fight to protect our freedom and liberty. I commend these young people and their families for their commitment. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Colorado, it is an honor to recognize Nathan Mitchell and John Moroney as appointees to the United State Naval Academy for their commitment to protect and serve our nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OPENING OF THE TOLEDO ZOO'S PROMEDICA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

### HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to recognize Jeff Sailer, the Executive Director of the Toledo Zoo, and his team for the opening of the ProMedica Museum of Natural History. After years of renovation, this beautiful museum is now open to the public.

An academic at heart, Jeff Sailer has made his mark on the city of Toledo with his visionary and unique approach to zoo management. Thanks to his work, Toledo is home to more than 9,000 animals that inspire and remind us of the importance of conservation. Families like mine have so many wonderful memories at the Toledo Zoo, and now the thoughtful exhibits and impressive building of this new museum offer a striking way to appreciate the past while looking forward to the future.

Its an incredible museum, and something Toledo can be proud of for generations to come. Congratulations to Jeff Sailer and his team.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BALTIMORE MINE TUNNEL DISASTER

### HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Baltimore Mine Tunnel Disaster, one of the deadliest mining accidents in Pennsylvania's history.

On June 5, 1919, more than a hundred miners entered the Delaware & Hudson Coal Company's Baltimore Mine Tunnel No. 2 in Wilkes-Barre. Disaster struck when 12 barrels of blasting powder ignited, killing 92 miners and injuring dozens. Historians believe the blast was caused by a loose power cable that came into contact with the trolley, causing the powder from the rear cart to ignite. Unfortunately, only seven miners escaped unscathed.

Following the disaster, legislators questioned the official procedures and safety regulations in mining plants. They believed regulations were not followed entirely, and many blamed the Baltimore Mine Tunnel Disaster on an ambiguous and lax mining code. Historians believe the incident could have been avoided if the Pennsylvania mining code had explicitly prohibited the transportation of powder in the same trolley cart as miners. As a result, legislators passed sensible protections that restricted the access and distribution of blasting powder by employees. To this day, the Baltimore Mine Tunnel Disaster remains one of the deadliest industrial accidents in Pennsylvania's history.

It is our responsibility to commemorate this day in Northeastern Pennsylvania's history, remember our region's roots in anthracite coal, and honor the legacy of those who lost their lives in the mines.



## IN RECOGNITION OF GUS GARCIA

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Gus Garcia, Austin, TX's first Hispanic mayor and the first Hispanic to serve on the Austin school board.

Mr. Garcia was born in Zapata, TX and moved to Laredo when he was ten years old. After serving in the Army, he utilized the GI bill to afford college and graduate from the University of Texas at Austin with a degree in accounting. Later, he would become a Certified Public Accountant and eventually start his own firm. While searching for housing in Austin, he and his wife, Marina, were subject to discrimination in neighborhoods around the university. He also faced professional challenges from those still reluctant to hire a Hispanic accountant. These experiences led Mr. Garcia into the realm of politics and shaped his commitment to representing Hispanics in Austin, TX.

Mr. Garcia served as a member of the Austin School Board, city council, and, eventually, as the Mayor of Austin. His colleagues remember him as a dedicated and industrious civil servant who always inspired those around him through his tireless efforts. The Gus Garcia Young Men's Leadership Academy, a middle school in East Austin, was named in honor of his groundbreaking career.

Mr. Garcia is survived by his three sons, five grandchildren, and wife, Marina. However, he will be remembered by countless others for his commitment to civil rights and a career that changed the face of politics in Austin.

## IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF WAKAMATSU FARM

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary festival of the Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Farm Colony. As staff, families, and community members gather to celebrate this momentous occasion, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing this outstanding historic landmark and all the Japanese cultural history it has represented over the past 150 years.

Wakamatsu Farm was established by a Japanese colonist in California in June 1869. Today, the Wakamatsu Farm represents rich Japanese-American history and is home to several organic farming projects and historic features. The Farm, now owned by the American River Conservancy, hosts two farming businesses that lease land and buildings on the property and provide sustainably grown produce and goods to the community.

I have seen firsthand the incredible impact the Wakamatsu Farm has had on their surrounding community. For 150 years, the Wakamatsu Farm has built a community space that cultivates an appreciation for natural resources, sustainable agriculture, and cultural history. The volunteers and partners have helped preserve the land and create a

beautiful space for visitors to learn about the Colony's roots.

Madam Speaker, as the Wakamatsu Farm and the community it serves gather to celebrate the Farm's 150th anniversary, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their commitment to the preservation of such a rich site for cultural history and to maintain a biologically diverse landscape for the benefit of the community.

## HONORING PAM DUBOIS AND HER 31 YEAR CAREER

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Pam Dubois on her 31 years of service in Cabarrus County, located in North Carolina's Eighth Congressional District.

Over the last 31 years, Pam has made countless contributions to our area. She started her civic service career in September of 1988 as an accountant and retires today as Senior Deputy County Manager.

Pam has experienced a very successful career and rose through the ranks of the Cabarrus County Finance Department to become the Finance Director and Deputy County Manager. Through her leadership, Cabarrus County has earned the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for 16 consecutive years and the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 29 consecutive years.

Pam serves on a distinguished North Carolina Association of County Commissioners committee, where she advises other counties with sound fiscal advice, and also on the North Carolina Finance Certification Program, from which she received her certification in 1994. She obtained her GFOA of the United States and Canada Certified Finance Officers Certificate in June 2001. Pam has also served for years on the Cabarrus County Convention and Visitors Bureau Board of Directors.

In addition to her career, Pam is heavily involved with her church—she's served as an Elder for Orphan Care, as a parking lot attendant and on the Building and Grounds Committee. Pam also volunteers in numerous ways to help veterans, animals and special-needs children.

Pam is married to Steve Dubois and has two cats, Brooklyn and Isabell. A graduate from the University of South Carolina, Pam is also known as one of the most passionate Gamecock fans around, despite residing in the Tar Heel State. I know I speak for everyone in the community when I say she will be missed but is well deserving of a long and happy retirement.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Pam Dubois on her decades of service to our community.

## 2019 MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY APPOINTEES

**HON. KEN BUCK**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Katie McGillicuddy, Kurt Voll and Owen Voll, Merchant Marine Academy Appointees from Colorado's Fourth Congressional District. I believe America's greatest assets are our brave men and women in uniform. These individuals are making an incredible sacrifice for our country and deserve our utmost support for their service. It is with great pleasure that I give Katie, Kurt and Owen my endorsement to attend this prestigious institution.

Our nation owes no greater debt of gratitude than to those who fight to protect our freedom and liberty. I commend these young people and their families for their commitment. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Colorado, it is an honor to recognize Katie McGillicuddy, Kurt Voll and Owen Voll as appointees to the United States Merchant Marine Academy for their commitment to protect and serve our nation.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOYCE BEATTY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, I was unexpectedly delayed and absent from the House Chamber on June 3, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted yes on Roll Call No. 232.

## IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2019 OCONTO COUNTY BREAKFAST ON THE FARM HOSTED BY PETERSON'S DAIRY

**HON. MIKE GALLAGHER**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tradition of Breakfast on the Farm in Oconto County.

Breakfast on the Farm is an iconic Wisconsin tradition that provides the community an opportunity to see first-hand how a dairy farm operates and learn about the significant role the dairy industry plays in Wisconsin's economy. Community members meet dairy farmers, explore the barns and equipment, and enjoy a delicious meal prepared on the farm.

The Oconto County Breakfast on the Farm Committee has been organizing the breakfast since 2010, recruiting host farms, sponsors, and volunteers to support this terrific event. In addition, the Committee offers scholarships to graduating high school seniors to further promote the strong agriculture industry in the community.

I am grateful to Peterson's Dairy for hosting the 2019 Oconto County Breakfast on the



Farm. Peterson's Dairy was established in 1973 when Arne and Judy Peterson purchased farmland in Lena, Wisconsin. In 2002, the family formed Peterson's Dairy LLC when their son, John, joined the operation as part owner. Peterson's Dairy LLC milks more than 1,000 registered Holsteins and farms about 1800 acres. Their philosophy to produce quality milk in a sustainable manner in a positive environment for both the animal's and farmer's welfare is one to be admired throughout the industry.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in commending the efforts of Breakfast on the Farm to educate the community through this time-honored tradition. Thank you to the Petersons, the Oconto County Breakfast on the Farm Committee, and the countless sponsors and volunteers for their continued support of Wisconsin's dairy industry.

#### HONORING THE WORLD WAR II, KOREAN WAR, AND VIETNAM WAR VETERANS OF ILLINOIS

##### HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans who traveled to Washington, D.C. on June 5, 2019 with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam 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 5th answered our nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the European Campaign to the Pacific Asian Theatre to the African 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.

Rudy L. Aguirre, Alva H. Allen, Robert Archibald, Douglas A. Askren, Werner J. Baeckelandt, Charles R. Bakutis, Jerome E. Barton, Edward J. Beck, Todd A. Bennett, Patrick R. Bergeron, Bernard W. Brogan, Daniel L. Brown, Robert J. Bruzek, Anthony T. Buckun, Edward D. Bush, Kenneth Cali, Miguel A. Camacho Jr., Thomas E. Carls, Richard A. Carrigan, Jr., Raymond A. Carucci, Daniel R. Chiarito, Charles Louis Clark, William J. Collins, Robert D. Copp Jr., Louis P. Covelli, George A. Cridland, John M. Decillo, Ralph DeSanctis, Harry E. Diezel, Salvatore C. DiPrima, Ronald L. Edgecomb, Philip Givens, Robert J. Goettert, Gordon N. Grassle, Alex H. Grayes KVV, E. Barry Greenberg, Gregory A. Grigas, John R. Hanson, Stephen Hier, George E. Hoganson, Anthony Isadore Sr.

John C. Jacobson, Paul Johnson, John C. Judge, Robert I. Kedzior, Anthony W. Kernagis, Patrick M. Kidd, Kenneth King, William F. King, Norbert Knight, Kenneth R. Knoll, Alan S. Kravits, Edmund J. Krupiczowicz, Joseph E. Lamy, Daniel E. Leimberer, Jim W. Lukas, Raymond S. Malinowski, Paul E. Marietta, Joel Martin, John M. Martinez, John McCarthy, Joseph Medina Jr., Alan Mendelssohn, Ronald C. Messner, John E. Miller, Maurice M. Misner, John F. Molenda, Robert Morales, Willard Muth, Terry Nelson, Raymond Nosal, Frank J. Notariano.

Stanley W. Olenjack, David C. Patterson, Donald J. Patterson, Ronald E. Pearson, Benjamin in Pennacchio, Chester A. Perczynski, Joseph L. Perez, Kenneth Phillips, James L. Popik-Fiore, Peter A. Prosilakos, Ralph W. Reetz, Carl J. Roback, Luis Obed Rodriguez, Alan W. Rolla, Richard J. Ruggiero, Terrence F. Ryan, R. William Ryden, Frank J. Schuster, Robert Seeger, David L. Sewnig, Charles A. Siefert, William J. Skowronski Jr., Donald B. Smith, Joseph A. Stupac, Richard L. Vachata, Anthony James Vinci, Donald Wagner, HD Washington, Jr., Dieter M. Werner, Edward Yarber, Robert T. Zavala.

#### FOSTER YOUTH SHADOW DAY

##### HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. McNERNEY. Madam Speaker, more than 415,000 children are currently living in the foster care system in the United States. As a member of the Congressional Foster Youth Caucus, I'm dedicated to strengthening our nation's child welfare system for the children of today and for future generations.

I participate in the annual Congressional Foster Youth Shadow Day, where current and former foster youth from across the country come to Washington to meet with Members of Congress.

Today I had the privilege of hosting Erica Hickey, a bright young woman from my home state of California who has been a foster youth advocate with California Youth Connection (CYC) since she went into the foster care system at the age of sixteen. Today, Erica serves as a member of CYC's Board of Directors and attends UC Davis, where she is studying political science. She aspires to go to law school after graduation to study anti-trust and government fraud law.

Erica is passionate about advocacy and policies that support youth mental health, foster youth, homeless youth, and juvenile justice youth. It's been a pleasure to host her in our nation's capital today, and I wish her the best in her future endeavors.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE ANTWERP HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL TEAM ON THEIR 2019 DIVISION IV STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

##### HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to recognize the Antwerp High

School Lady Archers of Paulding County on their victory in the 2019 Division IV state championship in softball. This was the team's first-ever state championship, the second state title in any sport for Antwerp, and one of a handful of state titles in Paulding County history.

The Archers held their opponent, Mechanicsburg, at bay, winning in a 5-0 shutout—the first for their opponent in the entire season. Another highlight of this historic win was the impressive performance of Pitcher Carlie Hanes, who tied the state record of 15 strikeouts in state DIV play and got her 300th strikeout of the season.

Congratulations to Antwerp softball for their state title.

#### GIRLS OF STEEL

##### HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Girls of Steel Robotics team for qualifying for the FIRST World Championship for the 9th year in a row. They received a Wildcard slot as a Regional Finalist, and they also won the Gracious Professionalism® award at the 2019 Greater Pittsburgh Regional FIRST Robotics Competition in California, PA. Gracious Professionalism® celebrates outstanding demonstration of FIRST Core Values by working together both on and off the playing field.

The students are proud that their robot qualified them to attend the FIRST World Championship, which has been held in Detroit since 2018. I think that the remarkable accomplishment of continuously making it to the Championship speaks volumes about the dedication these young women have in pursuing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) careers, sustaining their team, and spending thousands of hours collectively doing outreach in the community. Girls of Steel are often referred to as the home-town favorite robotics group and continue to be featured in videos, print media, and blog posts.

The Girls of Steel attended the FIRST World Championship in Detroit, Michigan at the end of April—one of the largest competitions of its kind, sometimes referred to as the Super Bowl of Smarts—where they competed against top teams from all over the world.

FIRST, which stands for "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology," is an organization dedicated to engaging our students in STEM fields. Hundreds of thousands of students gain practical, team-based engineering experiences through FIRST every year.

As a founder and co-chair of the Congressional Robotics Caucus, I believe competitions like these are important opportunities for our young people to explore potential careers in STEM. I've witnessed firsthand the incredible economic growth and development that these fields have brought to my home district, and I strongly believe that these fields are crucial to our nation's future prosperity.

The FIRST Robotics Competition allows students to apply creativity and critical thinking in the demanding and competitive field of robotics, all while instilling a strong sense of pride

in participants. I want to commend organizations like FIRST for their important work encouraging young people in these pursuits.

Sixty-seven young women from 8th through 12th grades associated with more than 20 schools located in and around the City of Pittsburgh represent this year's Girls of Steel team, and in recognition of their hard work, intelligence, and teamwork, I would like to mention each of these inspiring young ladies by name. They are: Alexandria Adams, Aeryn Anderson, Ciara Anderson, Anjali Angal, Ariella Avigad, Somdatta Basu, Meghna Behari, Justine Bennett, Ashnaa Bhide, Gracie Cain, Rosy Chen, Maya Cranor, Elizabeth Crookston, Claire Cummings, Isha Das, Maggie Davis, Haruka Doi, Riley Doyle, Anna Fedele, Alexandra George, Susanna Getty, Teadora Gildengers, Samhita Gudapati, Sofia Heller, Kristina Hilko, Amanda Hulver, Anna Jablonowski, Caroline Kenney, Janise Kim, Isabelle Kowenhoven, Mary Laird, Alice Liu, Sally Liu, Eve Mango, Alisha Mattson, Lauren Michaels, Abigail Miller-Peterson, Sreyashi Mandal, Lakshmi Mulgund, Abbey Murcek, Anna Nesbitt, Jimin Oh, Norah Ostin, Ariana Pasquella, Lehka Pendyala, Emma Prokop, Grace Raida, Lauren Raida, Ananya Rao, Sedona Rocher, Rachel Sadeh, Brittany Sadej, Swathi Senthil, Vivian Shao, Lauren Shovlin, Kavya Soman, Aditi Srivastava, Anna Staresinic, Tara Staresinic, Aditri Thakur, Langley Turcsanyi, Prishti Tyagi, Anja Vogt, Zoe Woon, Ziya Xu, Julia Young, and Qingqing Zhao.

Additionally, I want to convey my deep appreciation to the faculty and staff of Carnegie Mellon University's Field Robotics Center, who have mentored the Girls of Steel since 2010. Because of their efforts, more young women have experienced real-world technological challenges and learned from some of the nation's best at solving these problems. These experiences will certainly benefit these young women in the future.

I congratulate the Girls of Steel and wish them all continued success in their academic and professional endeavors.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA POLICE HOME RULE ACT

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Police Home Rule Act. This bill is necessary to eliminate the President's authority to federalize the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), the local District of Columbia police department. The President has no authority to federalize any other local or state police department. Under the Home Rule Act, "whenever the President . . . determines that special conditions of an emergency nature exist which require the use of the [MPD] for Federal purposes, he may direct the Mayor to provide him, and the Mayor shall provide, such services of the [MPD] as the President may deem necessary and appropriate."

Under the section of the Home Rule Act that would be repealed by this bill, the President may federalize MPD for a period of not more

than 30 days, unless a resolution passed by Congress extending such federalization is enacted into law. Congress may also terminate the federalization at any time by enacting a resolution. This bill is necessary, even with these protections, because, under the principle of home rule, the President should not have control over the District's local police department.

While it does not appear that a President has exercised this authority over MPD, this latent power is totally unnecessary, should not exist and is an affront to MPD, which has always voluntarily assisted federal authorities. MPD's first responsibility is to protect District residents and visitors, and it must always remain under the authority of the D.C. Mayor to accomplish its mission. Moreover, federalization is outdated in light of current practice. MPD regularly assists the federal government as a matter of comity, not as an arm of the federal government, just as I am sure other local police departments do in the region. There are approximately 30 federal police departments under the President's control in the District. In the case of a federal emergency, the President can unilaterally deploy these federal officers, as well as the D.C. National Guard, to address it, and also request the support of our local police department, as the President would do in any other jurisdiction.

This is an important step to increase home rule for the District, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF COL. SCOTT COLSON MARCY

#### HON. DAVID P. JOYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Col. Scott Colson Marcy, a decorated military officer with twenty-seven years of service, and express my profound condolences to his family and friends on his passing.

Born in Conneaut in 1950, Scott was a clear leader from a young age. Upon graduating high school, he was accepted into the Class of 1972 at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point only to be diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma just two years later. Through sheer determination and strength, he became the first cadet in West Point's history to be readmitted after battling cancer, graduating as a second lieutenant with the Class of 1973.

Throughout his storied military career, Scott served honorably both on and off the front lines all over the world, from an armored cavalry troop commander in Germany, to the Director of Strategy, Plans, and Policy in Italy, for a U.S. Joint Task Force with Allied Forces Southern Europe in the War for Kosovo, to an advisor to the Army National Guard, to the Director of Alaska Operations for the ground based missile defense program. Over the years, Scott also held teaching positions at the U.S. Military Academy, Dickinson College, and the Naval Postgraduate School, helping to shape the minds of our nation's next generation of leaders. By the time he retired from active duty in 2000, Scott's exemplary service had earned him several prestigious awards, such as the Bronze Star, the Army Com-

mendation Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

Equally as impressive as Scott's career was the family he built alongside it with his wife, Suzanne, and their son, Preston. As the son of a veteran myself, I cannot speak more highly of Scott's commitment to his country and his loved ones. In 2013, Scott fully retired to spend time with his family, enjoy fishing, boating, traveling, visiting friends and perfect the art of making sauerkraut. He is survived by both his wife and son.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the life, service, and legacy of Col. Scott Colson Marcy.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF WORLD WAR II VETERAN ALVIN H. PERRY

#### HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize World War II veteran Alvin H. Perry, of Wilmore, Kentucky, who will receive the Legion of Honor Medal from France this week on the 75th anniversary of the D-Day Landings. The Legion of Honor Medal is the highest honor presented by France for military service to the French people.

Pfc. Perry served in the 331st Infantry Regiment, 83rd Infantry Division. He fought in the Battle of Normandy from June 18, 1944, to July 19, 1944, when he was wounded and captured by enemy forces. He has been awarded the Prisoner of War Medal, the Purple Heart Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, and the WWII Victory Medal for his valiant service.

Pfc. Perry truly represents the greatest generation, answering the call to defend freedom and to liberate Europe from Nazi control. I am incredibly grateful for his service. I can think of no one more deserving of this prestigious honor.

#### FOSTER YOUTH SHADOW DAY 2019

#### HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to both acknowledge the hardships many foster youths have had to endure, and to celebrate their persistence and determination as they navigate a complex system and transition into adulthood.

In Arkansas, we have almost 5,000 children currently in the state's foster care system. As a Member of the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth, I am proud to join them as an original cosponsor of H. Res. 340, which recognizes the month of May as National Foster Care Month.

For the past four years, I have had the pleasure of a former foster youth personally shadowing me for a day. This year, I am honored to host Michaela Halbert, a former foster youth from my district. The proud mom of two boys, Michaela is a passionate advocate for children within the foster care system. Many foster youths do not have access to a community to help support them in finding a career

and a home after they grow out of the foster care system. I applaud Michaela in her efforts to create a better environment and future for children within the system.

I am proud to stand with the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth in celebration of the Eighth Annual Foster Youth Shadow Day, which gives youth an opportunity to experience firsthand the foundations and principle of the United States Congress, instilling the characteristics of leadership that they can continue to use throughout their lives.

TRIBUTE TO WISCONSIN SUPREME  
COURT JUSTICE SHIRLEY  
ABRAHAMSON

**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Ms. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the career and ongoing legacy of Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Shirley Abrahamson, the first woman and longest serving justice on our state's highest court. Born and raised in New York City, Justice Abrahamson often says, "At first I intended to be a teacher, but somewhere around 5 or 6 years old, I decided to be a lawyer, and when I really looked back to before wanting to be a teacher, I was going to be President of the United States, and don't count me out yet."

Her path to the potential presidency led her to the Indiana Law School in 1953 after graduating magna cum laude from New York University. Justice Abrahamson was one of the only two women enrolled during a time when there were not a lot of women in the law practice. While attending, her fellow classmates stood in awe of her performance and ability to recite cases and make arguments. According to her it was often the gossip amongst the students that whoever finished top in the class would automatically get an offer from large

leading Indianapolis law firms, but the Dean thought that they wouldn't hire a woman.

Despite that belief, she persisted, graduating with high distinction from the Indiana School of Law, she was then hired and quickly promoted to partner at a law firm in Madison, Wisconsin. As she continued her private practice, Justice Abrahamson served as a professor at the University of Wisconsin Law School. Her career would be redirected in 1976 when she was appointed to be an Associate Justice on the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Justice Abrahamson would be repeatedly elected to 10-year terms on the bench with clear majorities each time and would be later sworn in as Chief Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court in 1996.

When she joined the court, she was given a voice—a voice that she was never reluctant to use. At times when our state and court's fundamental values were continuously challenged, she expressed her views off the bench when necessary. She is an unshakable defender of progressive values, a protector of victims and a voice who fought against the special interests, and corporate wrong-doing. She is a judicial heavyweight, one of the most respected justices in United States history, and a trailblazer for women everywhere.

Justice Abrahamson often says that her accomplishments are due to the generations of women who blazed that trail so that she can walk on it. However, Madam Speaker, in a time when very few women were in the law practice, she took that risk, picked up the mantle and continued to pave the way so women like myself, in this Congress and across the nation could walk on it. As Justice Abrahamson heads to retirement, her absence will leave a void in our state, but the legacy she leaves behind will inspire generations to come.

Madam Speaker, Justice Shirley Abrahamson has helped change the course of American History for the better, and I applaud her for everything she has contributed to the state of Wisconsin and our nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF MELISA D.  
MONTEMAYOR

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2019*

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, Melisa D. Montemayor was born in Duval County, Texas, and graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in 1990 with a bachelor's degree in biology.

Mrs. Montemayor served the state of Texas for 29 years, including the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). Mrs. Montemayor also worked as the Laredo District Advance Transportation Planning Director and managed long-range and short-range transportation planning for the district. She also arranged transportation improvement plans with the Laredo Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Through her extensive work with local and federal legislators, consulting firms, and fellow TxDOT staff, she developed essential projects for Laredo and the state of Texas. For her efforts she received the U.S. Department of Transportation's "Design for Transportation 2000 National Award" and the Texas Department of Transportation Environmental Achievement Award.

Mrs. Montemayor's involvement has been essential to the Laredo community. I have confidence that she will continue to aid her community in any way she can and I wish her well on her retirement. Today, Mrs. Montemayor lives in Laredo, Texas with her husband, Adrian, and their daughter, Ari.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Mrs. Montemayor and her outstanding career.