

individuals in our community for their positive impact on Northeast Georgia. Just last month, the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce hosted its 111th Annual Meeting and Gala to celebrate Hall County's growth and success, and to congratulate the honorees on their well-deserved achievement. This year, the W.G. Mealor Award was presented to Andi Farmer in recognition of her outstanding volunteer efforts. Lanier Technical College and its president, Ray Perren, were presented with the Community Service Award.

The Chamber celebrated local businesses by bestowing both Riverside Pharmacy and WDUN with the Family Business of the Year Award. M&R Equipment Rental & Sales and BGW Dental Group were both named Small Businesses of the Year.

The Chamber also celebrated the rapid economic growth in Hall County. By next month, the Chamber projects up to 1,200 new jobs—including 26 new doctors and \$310 million in capital investment—will be added to Hall County's economy. As economic development and quality of life in Hall County continues to rise, I am reminded of those who take on the risk of entrepreneurship. They are among those who help drive Hall County's economic growth into the future.

I want to thank the Hall County Chamber of Commerce for empowering our community by connecting local businesses and offering resources to support their continued success. When local business owners collaborate with one another, they energize our economy and build an even stronger sense of community here in Hall County.

I congratulate the 2019 honorees on their well-deserved recognition and wish them success for many years to come.

#### HONORING THE KNICKERBOCKER GOLF CLUB AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 2019*

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to join the New Haven community in extending my heartfelt congratulations to Knickerbocker Golf Club as members gather to celebrate the organization's 75th Anniversary—a remarkable milestone for this unique community treasure.

Founded in 1944 by Charles Dorsey and Alex Smith, the Knickerbocker Golf Club is one of the oldest African-American golf clubs in the nation. Since then, the Knickerbocker Club has been another proud example of an African-American institution that has flourished in the midst of and despite our nation's long history with segregation. Augusta National, the storied golf club in Georgia which opened in 1932, did not accept its first African American member until 1990. Charlie Sifford—the Jackie Robinson of the PGA Tour—was never once invited to play at there. But, he was welcome at the Knickerbocker Pro-Am, and, the club continues its welcoming spirit today.

Well ahead of its time, the Knickerbocker Golf Club not only provided a place for African

Americans to play golf, but it also provided a safe and encouraging environment for young men in the community. Founding members acted as mentors, giving young people an outlet—a place to go instead of the streets or local pool halls. That tradition continues today. The Knickerbocker Golf Club not only provides this place of mentorship but scholarships which have allowed many young people to pursue a higher education and realize their dreams.

Sports have long been a great equalizer in America, and, as the Knickerbocker Club continues to demonstrate, they provide our young people an opportunity to learn discipline, focus and commitment while fostering a longtime hobby and lifetime love. It is for those reasons that the Knickerbocker Club has been so important to our community for the last seventy-five years, and why it remains so.

In Italian we have a saying “Cent’ Anni”—to one hundred years. It is my great honor to stand today to congratulate the Knickerbocker Golf Club on the celebration of their 75th Anniversary and extend my very best wishes for many more years of success.

#### HONORING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDIANA FEVER

**HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 2019*

Mrs. Brooks of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 20th anniversary of the Indiana Fever basketball team. Founded only four years after the founding of the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA), the Fever have demonstrated a consistent commitment to providing excellent sports entertainment and to giving back to their community. The people of the Fifth Congressional District are grateful for the Indiana Fever and it is my pleasure to congratulate the Indiana Fever and the entire Pacers Sports & Entertainment organization in Indianapolis, Indiana, in celebration of this special occasion.

Arriving in Indianapolis in 1999 while I was Deputy Mayor of the City of Indianapolis, the team became an immediate mainstay of Hoosier sports. Former President and General Manager of the team, Kelly Krauskopf, formed the first Indiana Fever Community Advisory Board, which I was proud to be a part of. With the generous support of owners Herb Simon and the late Mel Simon, the team quickly climbed the ladder of success. Today, the team has secured a league-record 13 playoff appearances—reaching the WNBA Finals three times and claiming the league title in 2012 to bring the first professional basketball championship to Indianapolis since the Indiana Pacers' ABA title in 1973. Under the leadership of star player Tamika Catchings, the Fever's 12 consecutive playoff appearances from 2005 to 2012 represented, at the time, the second-longest active playoff streak in American professional sports.

The incredible success of the Indiana Fever would not have been possible without the dedication made by the players who have devoted their lives to the game of basketball. Among the best athletes in the world, many

Fever players and coaches have gone on to compete in the Olympics. Nikki McCray, Natalie Williams, Kara Wolters and Tamika Catchings have played for the United States Olympic Team, while Nell Fortner has the remarkable distinction of having been appointed as the first head coach of the Fever while she was still coaching the United States Olympic Team. During this time, Coach Fortner led the U.S. Olympic Team to a perfect 8–0 record, claiming the Olympic Gold medal and claiming the record for the most wins of any coach in Women's USA Basketball history. Former Fever head coach and Women's Basketball Hall of Fame inductee, Coach Lin Dunn, led the team to their 2012 WNBA title after serving as an Assistant Coach for the U.S. Women's Olympic Team in 1990. During her time as President and General Manager of the team, Kelly Krauskopf led them to the WNBA playoffs 13 times and helped further many of their outreach programs. In 2018, Ms. Krauskopf moved to the Indiana Pacers, becoming the first female assistant general manager in the history of the NBA. The remarkable success of the Indiana Fever both on and off the court can be attributed to this strong legacy of dedication and achievement exhibited by players and coaches alike.

Through their record of success, the Indiana Fever remind us of the importance of women in all levels of sport. Under the leadership of the Simon family, and through their consistent dedication to women's basketball, the Fever seeks to promote increased participation of women and girls in sports. With a stated mission to “promote the development and well-being of youth and families within our community,” the team has done a great deal to make Indiana a better place for families to live and grow. The team regularly invites members of our community, including participants in Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Boys and Girls Club and Girl Scouts, to attend season games at no cost. The Choices for Champions program combats bullying in schools by educating young people and hosting them at a pre-season game where they can learn about the impacts of bullying. The team's Hoops For Troops program seeks to honor active duty and retired military heroes through military base visits, in-arena nights and meet-and-greets with Wounded Warriors, while the Hoops For A Cure Auction has raised over \$200,000 in total for breast cancer patients.

The Indiana Fever has, and continues to do, great things for the people of Indiana. Players on the team have been honored nineteen separate times with the WNBA Community Assist Award, with eight of these going to long-time player Tamika Catchings alone. Ms. Catchings has also been honored twice with the Dawn Staley Leadership Award, one of the highest community service awards in the WNBA. Under the new leadership of Dr. Allison Barber, President, and Tamika Catchings, Vice President, the Fever are working to continue to build the premiere WNBA franchise in the country. During their 20-year tenure in Indianapolis, the team has transformed and improved the lives of countless young people and their families. On behalf of all Hoosiers, I would like to thank them for their continued dedication to our communities and wish them success in the future.