

RECOGNIZING THE 39TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF NOVEMBER 1984

**HON. MARY GAY SCANLON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2023*

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my Sikh friends in Pennsylvania and around the world to recognize the 39th anniversary of November 1984 anti-Sikh violence in India. November 1984 marks one of the darkest chapters in modern Sikh history. Sikhism traces its nearly 600 years of history to the Punjab region of India. The Sikh community has a rich history in our country, with emigration dating back 100 years. With nearly 30 million followers globally and a thriving community here in the United States, Sikhism is one of the world's major religions.

Today we are here to remember the violence which occurred in November 1984, after the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in the capital territory of Delhi and most major cities of India. These killings lasted for days, and it is estimated that thousands of Sikh men, women, and children were brutally murdered in their homes and on the streets. Mr. Speaker, as a proud co-chair of the Congressional Sikh Caucus, remembering this heartbreaking violence that targeted Sikhs across India in 1984 is an important and historic step towards justice, accountability, and reconciliation and to prevent future such occurrences.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WY'EAST  
TRIBAL RESOURCES RESTORA-  
TION ACT

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2023*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Wy'East Tribal Resources Restoration Act, which establishes a first-in-the-nation tribal co-management structure on the Mount Hood National Forest.

This bill directs the Forest Service to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs to protect and enhance Treaty resources within "Indian Treaty Resources Emphasis Zones," through a co-management structure. The establishment of such Zones will help meet the trust responsibilities of the United States in protecting the exercise of Tribal Treaty rights and integrate indigenous ecological knowledge as an important part of the best available scientific information used to manage land within the Zones. The co-management plan will be developed with public input, subject to all existing environmental laws and regulations, including the National Environmental Policy Act. The bill also requires implementation of the Cultural Foods Obligations, which were included in the Public Lands Management Act of 2009 but have never been implemented.

The federal government forced Native Americans off of their homelands and onto reservations, and we haven't honored our promises for their treaty resources. I believe this tribal co-stewardship is an incredibly im-

portant step forward. It represents 21st century public lands management and I'm proud to lead the effort. It also helps the federal government fulfill its treaty obligations to Native American communities—a moral obligation that the federal government has never truly fulfilled.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, which will return some land management authority to Native Americans who have lived on, and managed, this land since time immemorial.

CELEBRATING THE FIRST RE-  
SPONDERS HONOREES AT THE  
4TH ANNUAL BLUE MASS AT AS-  
SUMPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

**HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2023*

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor South Florida's first responders as they are celebrated at the fourth annual Blue Mass at Assumption Catholic Church taking place in Florida's 23rd Congressional District on November 15, 2023.

Today and every day, America's first responders remain on alert and on call whenever we need them. Putting themselves at great personal risk. They are our police officers and sheriff's deputies protecting our communities. They are our firefighters running into burning buildings or emergency medical technicians, paramedics, 911 dispatchers and other public health workers providing emergency cases. There are not enough words to explain how grateful we are to all our extraordinary brave men and women who put themselves in harm's way each day, to keep our Nation safe.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great appreciation that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring our first responders for their service and sacrifice to our communities. We owe them a great debt of gratitude.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN  
HERO THE LADY DRAGONS  
WATER POLO TEAM

**HON. BETH VAN DUYN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2023*

Ms. VAN DUYN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Southlake Carroll's Water Polo Team, the Lady Dragons.

In only their second year as a UIL program, the Southlake Carroll Lady Dragons Water Polo team has already achieved back-to-back appearances at the UIL 6A state tournament. This year, they took 2nd place at the State Championships.

The Lady Dragons finished their 2023 season as District Champions, Regional Champions, and State Runner-Up, achieving a 23-2 overall record for the season.

Congratulations to the Southlake Carroll Lady Dragons Water Polo team on an amazing season and all of their accomplishments. I look forward to cheering them on next season

and wish all graduating seniors the best of luck.

DAMON NELSON, STAFF  
DIRECTOR, HPSCI

**HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2023*

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, November 10, marked the 5-year anniversary of the passing of a beloved friend and colleague, former House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence Staff Director, Damon Nelson.

Damon Nelson served his country nearly his entire life. Before working for Rep. Devin Nunes and the people of California's 22nd Congressional District, Damon was proud to have served in the United States Air Force, where he met the love of his life and future wife, Brigadier General Dana Nelson. He was a decorated veteran of the Persian gulf war, earning an Air Medal and three Air Achievement Medals.

Damon was known to be an immensely loyal colleague. He worked in the office of former Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes for over 10 years. Five years after his passing, Members and staff alike remember Damon for his hard work, boundless sense of humor, selfless commitment to mentoring others and service to the intelligence community and his country.

HONORING LINDA KAY MITROVICH

**HON. JUAN VARGAS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2023*

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor Linda Kay Mitrovich, a beloved friend, leader and mentor.

Linda was born on May 18, 1947, in Whittier, California. She was a dedicated public servant. She served on the Poway City Council and was Deputy Mayor from 1986 through 1990.

She committed her life to the betterment of others and took on many important causes, including environmental protection and Native American sovereignty.

She played a significant role in creating the first Wildlife Corridor in California, the Coal Canyon Wildlife Reserve, which supported the ecological well-being of over twenty-two million people in Southern California. Linda also created the first national conference on Native American Sovereignty in 2000.

The California State Legislature also recognized her accomplishments by naming her Woman of the Year in 1988 and 1991.

Linda's legacy is remembered through her husband and five children, and her memory is cherished by those fortunate enough to have met her.