

The Delray Democrat

The Greatest Speaker of the Modern Era¹

Michael K. Cantwell

As we welcome a new Democratic leadership team in the House, we should also give heartfelt thanks to Nancy Pelosi, the greatest speaker of the modern era.

She spearheaded the effort to save Social Security in 2005 after George W. Bush claimed a “mandate” for privatization. She shepherded the Affordable Care Act through the House in 2010, savings tens of thousands of Americans from untimely, unnecessary deaths.

After she reclaimed the Speaker’s gavel in 2018, she became the most effective opponent of Donald Trump. And over the past two years she has, with a bare majority in the House, overseen the most progressive legislation enacted since LBJ.

And now, in her final curtain call, she shows the world when and how to leave the stage. She chose to remain in Congress but not to run for minority leader, instead spending her final term mentoring the next generation of leaders – a black man, Hakeem Jeffries; a white woman, Katherine Clark; and a Latino, Pete Aguilar.

Bravo, Nancy. Bravo, Democrats.

¹ [*The Delray Democrat*](#), December 2022, page 6.