

Matamoros, Tamaulipas, in Mexico through their work with the Mr. Amigo Association.

Since the founding of the Mr. Amigo Association in 1963, Bob and Rachel Torres have both pledged time and effort to strengthen the relationship and promote the rich culture between these bordering cities.

Mr. Torres began his work in Mr. Amigo Association in 1964 as a member of the Board of Directors and went on to serve as the vice-president, and president of the entire organization in addition to chairing the Mr. Amigo Selection Committee. He stayed involved, serving as a master of ceremonies, consultant, and liaison between the association and its activities in Mexico for the last 40 years. Apart from his work with Mr. Amigo, Mr. Torres has been a chairman and member of the International Committee of the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce for over 20 years and helped establish the Junior Chamber of Commerce chapters in Mexico in Matamoros and Valle Hermoso.

Mrs. Torres, in addition to her accomplishments through the Mr. Amigo Association, created the event that now kicks off every Charro Days celebration since 1987. This event known as "Hands Across the Border," includes the exchange of national flags by schoolchildren from both Brownsville and Matamoros and the international greetings by their respective mayors. Her involvement in the community goes beyond the Mr. Amigo Association, as she played crucial roles in the establishment of magnet schools in Brownsville, the Gladys Porter Zoo, Brownsville Crime Stoppers, and the Palo Alto Visitors Center. She is also a supporter of the arts and an advocate for healthcare access, and her faith continues to drive her work for her community and its people.

As a couple, Bob and Rachel Torres have worked with the American Consul in Matamoros and the Mexican Consul in Brownsville. Additionally, their work translating countless contracts for labor unions, articles of incorporation, and official meeting minutes has been essential to the success of maquiladoras in Brownsville and Matamoros. All of their accomplishments mentioned here today do not come close to fully describing their unwavering commitment to the welfare of these two vibrant communities.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to honor these outstanding citizens who have not only fostered a strong relationship between Brownsville and Matamoros, but between the United States and Mexico as well.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
THOMAS JEFFERSON JOHNSON
AND HONORING THE SERVICE OF
MR. KEVIN JOHNSON**

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of CPL. Thomas Jefferson Johnson and also honor the service of his son, Kevin Johnson. In 1944, Cpl. Johnson was killed in action during the invasion of Guam. Two years after his passing, Cpl. Johnson was buried by his loved ones, but it was without all the honors he deserved. On Janu-

ary 20, 2014, Kevin Johnson along with the Am Vets in Tulare, California gave Cpl. Johnson the funeral ceremony he rightly deserves. Cpl. Johnson was a source of pride for our Nation, and his service to our country must be honored.

Kevin Johnson was born in Oklahoma, but when the family farm was wiped out in a flood, the entire Johnson family moved to Chowchilla, California, where his father bought a small farm. The last time Mr. Johnson saw his father was in Oklahoma while they were visiting family before he left to the Pacific Theater. Without a father, Mr. Johnson was raised by his mother and grandparents.

After graduating from Tulare Union High, Mr. Johnson joined the military as his father did decades before. He was assigned to an Army Special Forces unit sent into the Vietnam jungle.

Mr. Johnson is a proud member of Am Vets in Tulare. They have been performing the military ceremony at veterans' funerals since 1963. The volunteer honor guard includes 13 men, and they perform 120 graveside services a year. Mr. Johnson and the men he serves with have the privilege to honor hundreds of brave men and women who fought for our country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life of CPL. Thomas Jefferson Johnson as he is remembered and honored during the funeral ceremony that is long overdue. We also must recognize the bravery and service of his son, Mr. Kevin Johnson.

**IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID
LACHMANN AND HIS CAREER IN
SERVICE**

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I, along with House Judiciary Committee Ranking Member JOHN CONYERS, Jr., would like to take this opportunity to thank David Lachmann for his service to Congress and congratulate him on his retirement. David has worked in the House of Representatives for the past twenty-five years, many of those with the House Committee on the Judiciary.

David began serving as Legislative Director for Congressman NADLER's office in January 1993. He joined the staff of the House Committee on the Judiciary in 1998 as minority staff for the Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law. In 2001, David moved with Representative NADLER to the Constitution Subcommittee and became its Chief of Staff in 2006.

David has spent nearly thirty years in public service. Prior to joining Representative NADLER when he became a Congressman in 1993, David served as Legislative Assistant to Representative Stephen J. Solarz from 1989–1992. From 1985 to 1989, David was the Chief of Staff to Eileen C. Dugan, a member of the New York State Assembly, representing part of Brooklyn. A native of New York City, David is a graduate of Boston University and holds a B.A. in Philosophy and Political Science.

David's ability to work well with his colleagues, especially across the aisle and

across the Capitol, made him a valuable staff asset to passing many key pieces of legislation. He had the lead staff responsibility in the House for several significant bills that were enacted into law including the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (Public Law 103–141), the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (Public Law 106–274). He was the lead Democratic staffer during the debate over the Bankruptcy Abuse and Consumer Protection Act of 2005, and has been a key resource to Members, various Administrations, and colleagues on and off the Hill during the Subcommittee's consideration of critical constitutional, civil rights, and civil liberties issues.

We are deeply appreciative of the service and contributions that David has provided the Judiciary Committee and the Congress for the past twenty-five years. Over this time, many people on and off Capitol Hill have been fortunate to call him a colleague and friend. He will be missed. We wish him the best of fortunes and fulfillment in his future endeavors.

**HONORING THE SERVICE ACADEMY
NOMINEES OF THE 4TH
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF
PENNSYLVANIA**

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor thirty-three exceptional young men and women from the 4th Congressional District of Pennsylvania who have been nominated to attend a United States Service Academy. I submit with great pride the following nominations:

Nominated to the United States Military Academy—Matthew Benjamin, Jacob Jenkins, Chance King, Sabrina Mortell, Josh Mueller, Graeme Nelson, Zachary Schaeffer, and Tom Snell;

Nominated to the United States Naval Academy—Reed Alioth, Dom Antonelli, Bonaire Berry, Tyler Dolmetsch, Joe Fletcher, Matthew Gregoire, Liam Handley, Jacob Jenkins, Ian Johnson, Noah Krechel, Madi Luckenbaugh, Evan Miller, Logan Morris, Josh Mueller, Hayley Muddouh, Seth Murphy-Sweet, Graeme Nelson, Briannah Rohrbach, Sarah Sheerin, and Billy Stolkovich;

Nominated to the United States Air Force Academy—Hank Anderson, Donny Crabill, Matt Dieffenbach, Steven Foster, Noah Krechel, Marlaina McConville, Darren Miller, Evan Miller, and Natalie Seitz; and

Nominated to the United States Merchant Marine Academy—Jon Tarbox.

These individuals have distinguished themselves among their peers as leaders who are committed to serving their country in uniform. As these highly motivated and talented young men and women progress through the academy selection process, let us remember and be grateful for the sacrifice they are preparing to make in the name of our country and our citizens. I commend each, and wish them Godspeed in their future endeavors.