

Joint Chiefs of Staff for National Guard and Reserve Matters. Immediately prior to his assignment at Fort McCoy, he served as Division Chief for the Homeland Defense Division of the Joint Staff J3 Operations Directorate, Washington, D.C.

Colonel Pinter's deployments include Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, Kosovo, and Iraq. Colonel Pinter has committed his life to serving our country and has received many deserving awards and decorations, including the Defense Superior Service Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with seven Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with six Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, Humanitarian Service Medal with two Bronze Service Stars, NATO medal with two Bronze Service Stars, United Nations Medal with two Bronze Service Stars, Joint Staff Identification Badge, Army Staff Identification Badge, Airborne Badge, Air Assault Badge, Combat Patch, Senior Aviator Badge, Ranger Tab, and Combat Action Badge.

Under Colonel Pinter's effective leadership, which has fostered the success of "Team McCoy," Fort McCoy has received heightened awareness by senior leaders that have led to an increase in the transit training population, mobilization, medical and mission readiness of the U.S. military. Fort McCoy is one of six major Army Reserve garrisons, within the seventy-five Army installation command garrisons, and under Colonel Pinter's guidance, it is the only one to receive the Army Community of Excellence Award two years in a row. Additionally, during his tenure, Colonel Pinter transitioned Fort McCoy's business model into a four-seasons, cold-weather focused training model. Thanks to Colonel Pinter, Fort McCoy is well positioned for the future.

It has been an honor for me to serve as U.S. Representative for Wisconsin's Third Congressional District during Colonel Pinter's tenure at Fort McCoy. I know Colonel Pinter's leadership will be greatly missed at the base and surrounding communities, but I am thankful for his leadership and contributions to ensuring that Fort McCoy remains a shining star in the nation's military training infrastructure.

On behalf of my constituents in Wisconsin and a grateful nation, I would like to thank and commend Colonel David J. Pinter, Sr. for his years of dedicated service in the U.S. Army and in particular as Garrison Commander at Fort McCoy. I wish him, his wife, and children the very best as they turn the page on the next chapter of their lives.

HONORING LARRY SILLANPA:
LABOR ADVOCATE AND LIFE-
LONG DULUTHIAN

HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Larry Sillanpa, of Duluth, Minnesota who will be retiring from the Labor World Newspaper after 29 years as Editor and Manager. Over the years Larry has proven himself to be a tireless advocate for working people and an incredibly dedicated and successful

Editor, never missing a deadline in 668 issues printed. His dedicated service to The Labor World, the oldest Labor paper in Minnesota and one of the oldest in the country, helped guide the publication through uncertain times for print media and grow to reach even more readers across the Northland.

Larry's career as a newspaper man began at the age of seven with his first job delivering newspapers for the Duluth Herald and News Tribune at the rate of a quarter for a day's work. He worked many paper routes in his younger years throughout West Duluth and the Central Hillside neighborhood.

Over the next few decades, Larry worked for many of the pillars of Duluth's economy and community such as, the Duluth School District, the Norshor Theatre, the State of Minnesota, the U.S. Steel Plant in Morgan Park, and sailed on the Great Lakes for Republic Steel. He also attended the University of Minnesota Duluth (UMD), and wrote for the UMD Statesman.

Today, after 29 years as Editor of the Labor World, he has become one of those pillars of the Duluth community. Also, a proud lifelong Duluthian, Larry has lived on the same plot of land in northern Minnesota for 44 years. He and his wife Jennifer built their home on the same land after their marriage in 1994.

Throughout his career Larry has been an incredible advocate for workers and the Labor Movement. He has doggedly taken politicians and corporations to task for neglecting their obligations to the people who make our economy work, and highlighted all the efforts by working people to build a better life for the working class. Under his leadership he brought the paper from the age of type setting to the age of computers and carefully oversaw the reach of the Labor World grow as it increased in circulation by 65 percent.

I ask my colleagues in Congress to join me in recognizing Larry Sillanpa for his years of service to the Labor Movement and northern Minnesota. I thank Larry for keeping the Labor World newspaper alive and leaving it in a position to thrive into the future. Although he's finally giving up his paper route, his printed word will live on forever.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for Roll Call votes 169, 170, 171, and 172 on Tuesday, May 8, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay.

RECOGNIZING KERN CARPENTER
ON INDUCTION TO DADE COUNTY
FARM BUREAU HALL OF HONOR

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Director Kern Carpenter of the Miami-Dade County Farm Bureau, on his induction to the Farm Bureau Hall of Honor.

A third generation farmer with a rich history in tomato production; Mr. Carpenter and his family have dedicated their lives to preserving the beauty and prestige of Florida's agriculture.

At a young age, Kern lost his father to cancer and not long after; the farm he loved. However, Kern never lost sight of his family's heritage and worked hard to one day run his very own farm.

In 1983, Kern successfully renewed his family's farming legacy and opened Kern Carpenter Farms.

Today, that passion and drive Kern possessed at such a young age, continues to impact so many farmers and serves as an inspiration throughout our South Florida community.

Mr. Speaker, it is individuals like Kern that encompass the American spirit we all hold so dear. I wish him the very best in his future endeavors, and congratulate him on this much deserved honor. Congratulations my friend (Felicidades amigo).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on the day of April 27, I was unavoidably detained. As a result, I was absent for Roll Call votes 163 through 166. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: for Roll Call vote 163, on agreeing to the amendment on of H.R. 4, I would have voted no; for Roll Call vote 164, on motion to recommit with instructions of H.R. 4, I would have voted yes; for vote 165, on passage of H.R. 4, I would have voted yes; and for Roll Call vote 166, on motion to table H. Res. 856, I would have voted no.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II
AND KOREAN WAR VETERANS
OF ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II and Korean War veterans who traveled to Washington, D.C. on May 9, 2018 with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides World War II and Korean 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 May 9th 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.