

clinics, deliver “meals on wheels” every month, help supply the local food pantry, donate gifts during the holidays to local families in need, and support scholarships to high school graduates pursuing higher education opportunities. Their vision statement, “Hope and grace for all God’s children through Christ,” is a fitting anthem that embodies all their efforts in bringing glory to God.

Mr. Speaker, I pray for Christ’s guidance as the congregation comes together in this time of celebration and reflection. May God continue to bless Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church as they spread the good news of the Gospel and live out Christ’s love in our community.

TRIBUTE TO CREOLA BLACKWELL

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 2, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Creola Blackwell on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Our world has changed a great deal during Creola’s life. Since her birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Creola has lived through eighteen United States Presidents and twenty-two Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Creola in the United States Congress and it is my pleasure to wish her a happy 100th birthday. I invite my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Creola Blackwell on reaching this incredible milestone and wishing her even more health and happiness in the years to come.

HONORING GLORIA DIAZ WITH CALIFORNIA’S THIRD DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 2, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gloria Diaz as a woman of the year. She exemplifies the qualities of selfless service and possesses a deep desire to help others in the community. Her professional work and volunteerism demonstrates her commitment to improving her community. As a Clinical Service Manager for the Vacaville Police Department, Gloria has worked for more than two decades as a mental health clinician and care provider. She oversees more than twenty grants that provide funding to programs that are vital in assisting members in the community who need urgent care and aid during a crisis. In her leadership role at the Family Resource Center in Vacaville, Gloria dedicates her time selflessly to assist hundreds of individuals and families gain financial support and access to direct-need services. Each year through the Family Investigative Response Service Team and Youth Services Section, Gloria works to support internship opportunities for college students to gain valuable experience in the field of mental health counseling. Her role in putting together the successful and expanding Summer at City Hall program aimed at supporting students focused on ca-

reers in public service exemplifies her fondness for community service. Gloria Diaz’s tireless efforts and devotion to this program have been instrumental to its continuous success. Her hard work in helping those in need is inspirational and demonstrates what it truly means to serve your community.

RECOGNIZING THE PASSING OF DAVID AYALA-ZAMORA

HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 2, 2018

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize David Ayala-Zamora, who died on Wednesday, October 17, 2018. David’s passing is a huge loss for the City of Seattle and the Pacific Northwest region. As a union organizer and immigrant rights organizer, David was a true champion for justice.

David was born into a middle-class family in El Salvador. During the 1980s, David was one quarter away from graduating with a degree in electrical engineering when he decided to put his studies on hold to organize with teachers during El Salvador’s civil war. He also worked for a government institute that managed pensions for public employees as the grievance secretary, often putting him in very challenging and dangerous situations.

David’s visibility as a union leader and his calls to end the war eventually led to his arrest and torture by Salvadoran security forces. His early experiences being tortured shaped the core of his character and he brought that strength and resilience to everything he did. David described being tortured as “The best experience in my life. Being tortured is like running a marathon. It taught me how committed I am in the struggle for justice. And it has fortified me in some ways, because you learn how much capacity you have in this body.”

Forced into exile in the United States where he eventually became a U.S. citizen, David returned to organizing work in his new home. He was driven to continue this work, saying that “Those of us who were touched by people who gave everything for justice, we have to try to keep them alive and with us through the work we do.”

David’s work continues to be felt across the Pacific Northwest region. He was one of the organizers who launched the day laborer organizing project that became Casa Latina, which continues to advocate for immigrant workers’ rights. Many years later, he worked with me as the Organizing Director at OneAmerica, the organization that I founded and where I served as Executive Director for 11 years. David was a true partner to me, helping me to expand our organization across Washington State as we grew OneAmerica to be the state’s largest immigrant rights organization. David was exceptional at seeing leadership qualities in ordinary people and helping them to develop that leadership to do extraordinary things. Thanks to his work, OneAmerica was able to strengthen power within underrepresented immigrant communities and win major policy victories from maintaining driver’s licenses for undocumented immigrants, to organizing for the creation of Washington State’s first and only majority-minority congressional district, and pushing for a state Voting Rights Act.

David also worked for many years at SEIU in Portland and Seattle, organizing low-wage workers to bring justice to the workplace; as the Field Director at Working Washington where he organized airport workers at the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport to fight for fair wages and a safe workplace; and as the Organizing Director at Promise Arizona, orga-

nizing around voting rights, civic participation, and health care.

David is survived by his wife, Siovhán Sheridan Ayala, and his children, David Ayala-Lindeman, Margarita Anne Ayala-Sheridan, and Maura Ruth Ayala-Sheridan; his father, David Ayala-Dominguez; and five brothers and sisters, Ana Betty Ayala de Giron, Obed Edgardo Ayala-Zamora, Ruth Ayala-Zamora, Yani Ayala-Zamora, and Eliud Ulises Ayala-Zamora.

David was a trusted advisor and partner to me in fighting for immigrant and worker justice. His irrepressible laughter, his deep appreciation for life, and his hunger for justice has sustained and inspired so many across the Northwest and in El Salvador. A light has gone from our world, but David’s legacy shines brightly with all those he touched and all the movements he helped build. His lasting impact on the region will endure for many years to come.

COMMEMORATING 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF LAKEWOOD FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 2, 2018

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the one hundred twenty-fifth anniversary of the Lakewood Fire Department.

In 1893, citizens of Lakewood joined together to form the Lakewood Bucket Brigade. Neighbors and friends intent on preserving the safety of their community set the foundation for more than a century of service to come.

Dedicated to protecting its citizens, the village of Lakewood was covered by not one, but two fire companies for nearly forty years. Lakewood Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1, later known as Lakewood Hose Co. No. 1, was formed in 1899. Through generous donations from J.W. Packard, the Lakewood firefighters received land for a new fire hall and 1915 Model T Ford Chemical Fire engine. In 1924, Lakewood’s second fire company, known as the Lakewood Chemical Co. Inc., was formed. In 1964 the Lakewood Hose Co. No. 1 and the Lakewood Chemical Co. merged to become the present day Lakewood Fire Co. Inc.

Over the years, the Lakewood Fire Department has grown in size and expanded in their capabilities. By adding marine rescue units, heavy rescue vehicles, ambulances, and ladder trucks, the Lakewood Fire Department has adapted to meet the safety needs of their community. Construction and later renovation of a training center has ensured Lakewood firefighters are well prepared for the dangers they may face in the line of duty.

One hundred twenty-five years of service to the community is certainly a cause for celebration. I congratulate the Lakewood Fire Department for their impressive record of hard work and look forward to many more years of them keeping our community safe.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to celebrate the Lakewood Fire Department’s one hundred twenty-five years of service.