

Leandro Jasso, an Army Ranger who grew up in Leavenworth, WA and was assigned to Joint Base Lewis-McChord. Sgt. Jasso was killed in Afghanistan during his 3rd deployment protecting and defending our country. The men and women who serve in the military are the very backbone of our nation. The freedoms we as citizens enjoy would not be possible without the courageous sacrifices Sgt. Jasso and countless others have made. Sgt. Jasso's commander stated that he was "a humble professional who placed the mission first, lived the Ranger Creed and will be deeply missed." In other words, he had the heart of a servant. While it is with incredible sadness that I make this statement, it is also with immense gratitude for the life of service he lived, the people he touched, and the sacrifice he made. We will be forever grateful.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 28, 2018*

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on November 27, 2018 for Roll Call Vote 421 and Roll Call Vote 422. Had I been present, my vote would have been the following: Yea on Roll Call Vote 421 and Yea on 422.

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HONORING THE 6TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT AGRICULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 28, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the individuals who served on the 6th Congressional District Agriculture Advisory Committee.

The members of the Advisory Committee met with my team regularly to discuss emerging agriculture issues in Indiana. Agriculture has played a critical role in Indiana's economy throughout our state's history. Indiana is home to nearly 60,000 farms that produce a wide variety of crops and livestock. The Committee's valuable insight helped me better represent Hoosier farmers' priorities in Congress.

I would like to thank all of the members of the Committee, including Angie Steinbarger, David Howell, Mark Bacon, Matt Chapman, Elaine Gillis, Jim Douglas, Gerald Guack, Leah Beyer, Brett Glick, Harold Cooper, Jeremy Russell, Eugene Whitehead, Kari Steele, Jonathan Sparks, Ed Yanos, Andrew Fix, Clark Jordan, Tom Chalfant, Tyler Silveus, Christian McCray, Bryan Fischer, Scott Logue, and Tobe Forshtay.

I appreciate their service on the Committee and their dedication to making Indiana a better place to live for all Hoosiers. I wish all of them continued success in whatever God has in store for them and their families.

PROMOTION OF MAJOR MARISOL ALTAGRACIA CHALAS TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 28, 2018*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Major Marisol Altagracia Chalas on the occasion of her well-deserved promotion to Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army. Marisol began her outstanding military career 28 years ago as an enlisted soldier and has broken barriers on behalf of women in this country ever since. Most notably, in 2001 she had the distinction of becoming the first Latina National Guard Black Hawk pilot in the United States. Throughout her career, she has held the position of Battle Captain and Platoon Leader during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Aviation Liaison under the Combined Joint Task Force in the Dominican Republic, Lean Six Sigma Advisor, and Force Management and Exchange Officer with the Canadian military. Marisol also has outstanding corporate experience, having worked in management positions at General Electric and Booz Allen Hamilton.

Marisol's commitment to public service is not limited to serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. It extends to helping her community as well. Marisol started a leadership lunch and learn program for children at Fort Bragg, took part in the Big Brothers Big Sisters of America program, and currently serves on the board of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy. She also received the USCIS Outstanding American by Choice award in 2017, which highlights and celebrates the experiences and work ethic that immigrants contribute to the United States.

As an Army Congressional Fellow in my office, Marisol brought a unique perspective to my staff. Her long and distinguished career in the military added invaluable insight while we considered the Fiscal Year 2018 Defense Appropriations legislation. The policy and funding measures she worked on helped to improve the lives of U.S. service members around the world. Additionally, Marisol oversaw the State and Foreign Operations and Homeland Security appropriations portfolios during her year in the office. Whether it was meeting with constituents, staffing day long Appropriations Committee markups, or debating important issues with staff, Marisol always conducted herself with the utmost professionalism and respect.

Marisol's service and dedication to our nation truly upholds the U.S. Army's core values: Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage. Thank you, Marisol, for your service to our nation and for your service to the people of the Fourth District of Minnesota. We wish you nothing but success in the next chapter of your life.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 28, 2018*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, on roll calls 421 and 422, I am not recorded. Had I

been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 421; and Yea on Roll Call No. 422.

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HONORING THE 6TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATION BOARD

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 28, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the individuals who served on our 6th Congressional District Military Service Academy Nomination Board.

As a Member of Congress, I have the honor of nominating young Hoosiers from Indiana's 6th Congressional District to the United States Military Service Academies. Each Member of Congress may nominate up to ten candidates for each available vacancy to the Military Academy at West Point, the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Merchant Marine Academy.

Each year, the members of the 6th Congressional District Military Service Academy Nomination Board work with my staff and I to evaluate the applications of young men and women from our District who are seeking admittance to a military academy. During my time in Congress, we have nominated more than 90 young men and women to these academies. Many of them have since graduated and are currently serving our country.

I want to thank all of the members of the Nomination Board, including, Nate LaMar, Jan Frazier, Robert Morrow, David Martin, and Kelly Poltrack for their service. The Board's insight and experience has always been helpful to me and my staff.

I appreciate their service on the Committee and their dedication to our country. I wish all of them continued success in whatever God has in store for them and their families.

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IN APPRECIATION OF THE SERVICE OF MAJOR SINDI ANNE CONNELL

**HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 28, 2018*

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Major Sindi Anne Connell of the United States Army for her extraordinary dedication and service to our Nation. Major Connell will soon transition from her current assignment as an Army Congressional Liaison in the House of Representatives to attend Army Intermediate Level Education and return to duty as an Army Military Intelligence Officer.

With an impressive and proven record of leadership, including a combat tour in Afghanistan with the 101st Airborne Division and company command in the 501st Military Intelligence Brigade in the Republic of Korea, Sindi was chosen to serve as a Defense Fellow in a Congressional Office in 2016.

Major Connell's outstanding work there led her to be selected as a Congressional Liaison in the United States Army House Liaison Division. Her first-hand knowledge of the military,

its culture, and traditions was a tremendous benefit to Congressional offices. Sindi was especially effective in her service to Members and staff as she escorted them on fact-finding and oversight delegations within the United States and around the world. I traveled with Sindi on multiple occasions. Her expert planning, attention to detail, and love of travel enabled exceptional visits for my fellow Members of Congress and myself. I found her to be a thoughtful, intelligent, and professional soldier in the best traditions of America's Armed Forces.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a pleasure to work with Sindi during her time as an Army Congressional Liaison Officer in the House of Representatives. On behalf of a grateful Nation, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service and sacrifice of Major Sindi Anne Connell, and her husband, Joshua Hengst. I wish them the very best.

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HONORING COMMUNITY  
RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN

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**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 28, 2018*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Community Resources for Children (CRC) for providing excellent early learning and care resources for families and children across Napa County, California for forty years.

Founded in 1978, Community Resources for Children strives to advocate and educate the public on the importance of early education and child care. It has provided nearly 45,000 referrals for child care and over \$44 million dollars to local child care providers that care for children of low income and student or working parents. For the past forty years, CRC has offered families quality early education materials for free and created early learning activities for families, child care providers, caregivers, educators and other community members.

Community Resources for Children provides professional development and one on one coaching to more than 140 local child care providers that service more than 1,700 children per year. Its programs work to increase the quality and amount of available child care in Napa County and have strengthened the local economy while putting families on the pathway to success.

Community Resources for Children also aims to empower parents by ensuring they have the necessary resources to make child care and early education decisions. Through all of its programs and assistance CRC hopes to help parents succeed as their child's first teacher.

Mr. Speaker, Community Resources for Children is an admirable organization dedicated to the care and education of future generations in our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor Community Resources for Children here today.

HONORING TRES YORK

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 28, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a former member of my staff, Tres York, for his work in my office and his service to our state.

Tres worked in my Shelbyville office for over a year, serving as a staff assistant and driver. Tres is a hard worker and was a huge asset to our organization. Since leaving our office, Tres has worked for the Indiana House of Representatives, MIBOR Realtor Association, and now is an Advisor for Foresters Financial.

On a personal note, Tres is my friend. We share a love for the life lessons of sports and a commitment to family. I want to thank Tres for his friendship and his hard work in our office. I wish him continued success in all that God has planned for him and his family. I will be cheering Tres on every step of the way.

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CONGRATULATING KESHAV GOEL

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**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 28, 2018*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent, Keshav Goel, of Monte Sereno, California, on being selected as a George J. Mitchell Scholar.

One of our nation's most prestigious scholarships, the program was created 20 years ago by the U.S.-Ireland Alliance and named in honor of Senator George J. Mitchell's contributions to the Northern Ireland peace process. The program selects future American leaders for one year of graduate study in Ireland. Keshav Goel is one of 12 Mitchell Scholars selected this year out of 370 students who applied from more than 200 Congressional Districts across the U.S.

Keshav is a dual major in Biology and Economics at Williams College. Understanding that socioeconomic inequality is one of the greatest public health concerns in the U.S., he has conducted research on ailments that disproportionately affect the world's poor. Growing up in Monte Sereno, California, Keshav co-authored his first published clinical paper at the age of 16 on the automated detection of congenital heart defects in newborns. He is currently conducting a year-long senior biology thesis to uncover the causes of asthma which disproportionately impacts children in impoverished countries. He has also conducted health economics research with Harvard Medical School to assess the quality and effectiveness of federally funded clinical trials. Outside the classroom, Keshav serves as a peer mentor with an organization in Western Massachusetts that provides drama therapy to adolescent survivors of trauma. An aspiring physician, Keshav will study Immunology and Global Health at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

Keshav embodies the spirit of leadership and academic excellence that led to the creation of the Mitchell Scholarship program. I congratulate him on his selection as a George J. Mitchell scholar and wish him every success during his year in Ireland.

TRIBUTE TO THE HOMENETMEN  
GLENDALE "ARARAT" CHAPTER

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 28, 2018*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Homenetmen Glendale "Ararat" Chapter upon its fortieth anniversary.

Established in 1918, the Armenian General Athletic Union and Scouts, commonly referred to as Homenetmen, has served hundreds of thousands of youth worldwide. In 1922, when Homenetmen chapters in Constantinople were forced to close, its leaders dispersed across the world. From there, a network of chapters began appearing globally, including in the United States.

Homenetmen Western USA presently comprises 19 chapters, with several within California's 28th Congressional District, which is home to a large and vibrant Armenian-American community. This extraordinary organization has preserved the Armenian spirit by introducing Armenian-American youth to the rich Armenian culture and heritage, and has provided them with physical, moral and social education.

Founded in 1978, the Homenetmen Glendale "Ararat" Chapter is the largest chapter in Homenetmen Western USA. It has served thousands of children, young adults and seniors over the years and has provided scouting, athletic, educational, cultural, and wellness activities to the communities it serves. The organization has been especially committed to improving the lives of our next generation by offering healthy programs for teens and young adults through supervised weekend and after school activities in a family-oriented environment. In addition, it has championed teaching the importance of volunteerism, teamwork and citizenship.

The time, effort, and care that the Homenetmen Glendale "Ararat" Chapter has given to the community is invaluable, and the Armenian-American residents of Southern California have benefited greatly from its dedicated work. The organization has played a significant role in shaping our children into responsible citizens and thriving members of society, who become shining examples of Homenetmen's motto—"Elevate Yourself and Others With You."

I ask all Members to join with me in commending the Homenetmen Glendale "Ararat" Chapter for forty years of dedicated service.

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HONORING STEPHEN GODDARD

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**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 28, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a former member of my staff, Stephen Goddard, for his work in my office and his service to our state.

Stephen worked on our team during the 115th Congress, serving as a legislative fellow in my Washington, D.C. office. In this role, Stephen was responsible for advising me on a variety of policy issues, managing our internship program, handling tour requests, and writing consistent mail. He also helped write the