

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. CLYDE  
LARSON

**HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to note the passing of my constituent in Minnesota's Eighth Congressional District, Mr. Clyde Larson, of Hermantown. Mr. Larson was a pillar of the railroad labor community in Duluth, the Arrowhead, and throughout our state.

Across Northern Minnesota, we are all so very proud of the men and women who operate the BNSF, Canadian National, and Canadian Pacific and short-line railways. The railroad workers of America—epitomized by Clyde Larson and so many thousands of others like him—help form the foundation of our Nation's economy. Whether they are moving passengers, iron ore and steel, grain, chemicals, forest product or intermodal goods, railroad train crews work around the clock under all weather conditions. They are silent sentinels protecting the public while serving industries and operating their trains across the land.

Clyde was 62 years of age when he passed unexpectedly. Born to Dexter and Wanda Larson, master bakers and small business owners from Fridley, Minnesota, the Larson family later moved to Hermantown, where Clyde graduated from high school in 1972 and met his bride, Anne Tessier, in 1977.

After high school and vocational training, Clyde went to work for Burlington Northern Railroad (BN), and then the mighty Duluth Masabi and Iron Range Railway (DM&IR) where he worked as a conductor until being severely injured in the early 1990's. During his railroad career, Clyde was elected Local Chairman for the United Transportation Union and rose by democratic election to the position of UTU General Chairman for the DM&IR.

General Chairman Larson helped countless railroad workers and protected one of the most valuable and lucrative steel-road contracts in the United States. Brother Larson presided over the DM&IR's Carnage pension contributions to steel-road workers, in addition to ensuring each member's rights under the United States Railroad Retirement pension and disability system. Thanks to his work ethic and devotion to his UTU members, thousands of active and retired railroad workers across northern Minnesota have lived independent lives, supported our Main Street economies, and helped to make Minnesota a better place in which to live, work, and do business.

Upon the CN Railway's takeover of the DM&IR in 2009, Clyde went to work for the UTU Designated Legal Counsel firm of Hunegs, LeNeave, and Kvas, where he served and protected all railroad craft workers. Clyde worked as an expert investigator, consultant, and advocate for railroad families when they were most vulnerable. Through his work to improve safety in the railroad work place, Clyde, along with his Union Brothers and Sisters,

have made America's railroads a safer place to in which to work and prosper.

In true Minnesota tradition, Clyde honored justice, common decency, and maintained civility at all times. With a dry wit and cutting sense of humor, Clyde championed fair treatment for workers and railroad families. He was tremendously generous with his own time and resources to help all of those with less. Having known Clyde Larson as a husband, father, grandfather, brother, friend, mentor, and member of the St. Lawrence Church of Duluth, Moose Lodge, United Transportation Union, and Railroad Retiree's Association, the greater Duluth and Arrowhead community moves forward as richer Americans.

Clyde Larson is survived by his loving wife Anne, sons Scott, Eric, and Corey, with their wives Jen, Lindsey and Jean, his grandchildren Dexter and Gustafson, parents Dexter and Joanne Larson, and siblings Joel, Mikkel, Karen, and Kathy, along with their spouses and extended families.

TRIBUTE TO MASTER SERGEANT  
SCOTT "SMASH" STURTZ

**HON. AUSTIN SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, after more than twenty-one years of exceptional service to our Nation, Master Sergeant Scott A. Sturtz, United States Air Force, will soon retire from his position as First Sergeant of the 461st Operations Support Squadron, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia.

Master Sergeant Sturtz enlisted in 1997. After basic training, he learned to load weapons on F-15s and to perform maintenance on armament systems. He was initially assigned to the Chiefs of 335 Fighter Squadron and then the 4th Operations Support Squadron at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in North Carolina. Career highlights during this period include being selected as a member of the premiere loading crew that performed nuclear load for evaluation by nuclear surety inspectors. Additionally, he was selected for promotion Below-the-Zone to Senior Airman. In 2002, he was transferred to the 51st Maintenance Operations Squadron in the Republic of Korea working with A-10C aircraft and he became one of the first airmen in the country certified to load the GBU-31 Joint Direct Attack Munition on the F-16. He returned to Seymour Johnson and was assigned to the 4th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, where he served in units with the Chiefs, the World Famous Rocketeers, and the Eagles. His vast duties included end of runway operations, supervising weapons load crews on twenty-two aircraft munitions, weapons load crew chief, weapons expeditor, non-commissioned officer in charge, and unit deployment manager where he was responsible for directing mobility activities for 900 personnel in support of

contingency operations across the globe. In 2015, through a rigorous process he was selected as a First Sergeant and served in the 16th Airborne Command and Control Squadron at Robins Air Force Base, Georgia.

Master Sergeant Sturtz has deployed around the world in his sworn duty to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States. His deployments include Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, where his actions led to the delivery of 4,500 pounds of guided bombs during the Second Battle of Fallujah, and a Middle East deployment where his efforts resulted in the successful visit of President George W. Bush to the area of operation. Additionally, he has deployed for Operation ALIED FORCE, Operation NEW DAWN, and Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

Currently Master Sergeant Sturtz is First Sergeant of the 461st Operation Support Squadron and is responsible for advising the group commander and two squadron commanders on health, welfare, and professional development for 249 Air Force personnel.

It is a pleasure to recognize Master Sergeant Sturtz's successful and decorated career. On behalf of a grateful nation, I commend Master Sergeant Sturtz for his service, selfless dedication, and contributions to the security of the United States of America. I also wish to recognize the sacrifices and contributions made by Master Sergeant Sturtz's son, Jackson, his wife, Gina Sclafani, and her daughter, Sofia. His parents, Mrs. Delores K. Sturtz and United States Marine Corps Vietnam Veteran, Mr. Stuart A. Sturtz have supported their son throughout his twenty years of faithful service. We are a nation indebted to veterans, service members, and military families who give so much to defend our Constitution and way of life. I extend my best wishes to Master Sergeant Sturtz and his family on the occasion of his retirement.

RECOGNIZING LEN ALBRIGHT FOR  
THE 2018 MONTANA CONGRES-  
SIONAL VETERAN COMMENDA-  
TION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Len Albright of Bozeman, a recipient of the 2018 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Albright is a four-year veteran of the United States Air Force and served his country in the 55th Recon Squadron during the Vietnam War.

Mr. Albright became heavily involved in serving the veteran community following his time in the Air Force. He is Commander of American Legion Post 14, Vice President of Veterans Alliance of Southwest Montana, a Mentor Coordinator for the Veteran Eligible

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Treatment Services Court, and Chairman of the Memorial Day Parade committee. He is also active in Honor Guard, Color Guard, and other veteran organizations. In addition to his work with veterans' groups, he serves as a community sports advocate and official.

Mr. Albright is the son of a World War II and Korean War veteran, and he has inspired his son and grandson to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Len Albright for his dedication and service.

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR  
BENJAMIN C. PALACIOS

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of an outstanding Soldier and a very dear friend, retired Command Sergeant Major Benjamin C. Palacios who passed away on November 9, 2018.

Affectionately known as Ben, Command Sergeant Major Palacios was born on November 11, 1950 on the island of Saipan in the Northern Marianas. He later moved to Guam where he graduated from George Washington High School and was drafted into the United States Army in 1969.

Ben spent the next thirty-four years in exemplary service in the Army as an armor Soldier. His duties have included diverse assignments ranging from Tank Commander to Command Sergeant Major of some of the premier organizations in the United States military. He served as the Operations Sergeant in several Armor Battalions including an assignment as a Senior Enlisted Advisor for the 50th Armored Division, New Jersey Army National Guard in 1988. In 1991, Ben deployed to Saudi Arabia in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm as the 3-69 Armor Battalion Command Sergeant Major. In 1994, Ben served as the Brigade Command Sergeant Major for the 2nd Vanguard Brigade in the 24th Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, Georgia, and in 1996 he was selected to be the 24th Infantry Division Command Sergeant Major. Following this assignment Ben served as the Command Sergeant Major for the Third Mobile Armored Corps at Fort Hood in Texas and was subsequently selected to serve as the United States Army Forces Command's Command Sergeant Major in July 1998. Ben's illustrious Army career culminated in one of the most prestigious assignments as the command sergeant major of the United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, United States Forces Korea and 8th United States Army in the Republic of South Korea.

On his retirement in 2003, the Republic of South Korea awarded Command Sergeant Major Palacios the Order of National Security Merit Gwanbok Medal on behalf of the President of South Korea. Ben was the first enlisted soldier to receive this prestigious medal since the end of the Korean War.

Ben's most prestigious awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Republic of Korea Order of National Security (Gwangbok) Medal, Bronze Star Medal, and

Meritorious Service Medal. Some of these he was awarded more than once.

Since 2003 Ben has remained engaged in Guam and the Pacific region working for companies associated with improving the United States security posture and contributing to the local community. One of his most devoted efforts was as a member of my Veterans Advisory Council which I founded to assist my advocacy on behalf of veterans residing in Guam. His dedication and personal efforts at improving services, support, and benefits for the U.S. military veterans living on Guam was greatly appreciated and a welcome improvement to the quality of life of all veterans.

I appreciated his warm, welcoming and inclusive approach to serving our veterans and everyone he engages.

I will miss Ben and his ever-optimistic attitude. I extend my deepest condolences to his wife of 45 years Estella Kosaka Palacios, and his sons; Benjamin, Bryan, Bradley, Brent, and their families.

Rest in peace my friend.

TRIBUTE TO BENNETT "BEN"  
DRAKE

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Riverside County farming and water leader Bennett "Ben" Drake, who passed away on Wednesday, November 7, 2018. Ben served the people of Riverside County in many ways throughout his life and he will be deeply missed.

Ben was born in Riverside, California on July 8, 1949, to Richard and Martha Drake. Ben was a graduate of Fresno State University and also a member of Class XII of the California Agricultural Leadership Program. Ben was a fifth generation farmer in Riverside County and a resident of Temecula since 1973. Ben founded Drake Enterprises, Inc., a farm management company 40 years ago. They manage 750 acres of avocados and 450 acres of winegrapes in the Temecula Valley. Ben served as past President of the Temecula Valley Winegrape Growers Association and past Chairman of the California Association of Winegrape Growers.

As a prominent farmer and water advocate, Ben played a significant role in the successful growth of the Temecula Valley Wine Country. In the 1990's, an outbreak of Pierce's Disease threatened to wipe out grape vineyards throughout the region and state. As I witnessed first-hand, Ben's leadership during the crisis made a tremendous impact and resulted in a coordinated response from local, state and federal agencies that ultimately saved the region from devastation. Ben was elected to serve on the Rancho California Water District's Board of Directors in September, 2001, and faithfully served on the Board for 17 years. For all of his many accomplishments Ben was named California Association of Winegrape Growers Leader of the Year 2013; Boy Scouts Distinguished Citizen of the Year 2014; Riverside County 4H All Star; and received the Robert M. Howie Award for Outstanding Service to Riverside Agriculture 2010.

Ben is survived by his wife of 43 years, Sharon (Clark) Drake and his children Katie (Drake) and JD Harkey, Chase Drake, Kourtney Drake, Kara (Drake) and MacLain Atkinson. I want to extend my heartfelt condolences to the entire Drake family, his friends, and everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him. Although Ben may be gone, the many contributions he made in Riverside County will have a lasting impact.

CONGRATULATING JOHN  
NICHOLAS "NICKY" SMITH

**HON. JAMES COMER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate John Nicholas "Nicky" Smith, Mayor of Albany in the 1st District of Kentucky, on his retirement from public office and offer my best wishes as he focuses on doing what he enjoys most—spending time with his loved ones.

As a staunch advocate for the citizens of Albany throughout his tenure, Mayor Smith secured over \$27 million in grants and loans to improve the livelihood of each of his neighbors through improvements to downtown infrastructure and the expansion of vital community services. His leadership on Area Development District Boards of Directors and his chairmanship and involvement with multiple community boards and committees during his career are a testament to his fervent spirit and lifelong commitment to bettering those around him.

I join with his family and friends as well as all those who have benefited from his efforts to wish him the best in this new chapter of his life. I am grateful for his steadfast leadership and profound influence on countless residents of the 1st District of Kentucky.

HONORING JERRY WHITE

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

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

Jerry started on our team during my first term in Congress, serving as my Deputy Chief of Staff in Washington, D.C. and later as the Staff Director of the Republican Policy Committee. During his time in our office, he advised me on a variety of policy issues, developed and wrote numerous bills, and managed the Republican Policy Committee. Since leaving our office, Jerry has gone on to serve as the Legislative Director for Rep. CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS and now works as the Policy Director for the House Republican Conference.

On a personal note, Jerry and I share a love of the life lessons of sports and a commitment to putting family first in our life. Jerry has been my advisor, but more importantly, I consider Jerry my friend.

I wish Jerry continued success in all that God has planned for him and his family. I

have no doubt Jerry's biggest impact on our nation is yet to come. I look forward to cheering Jerry on in those efforts.

RECOGNIZING JOHN ALEX FOR  
THE 2018 MONTANA CONGRES-  
SIONAL VETERAN COMMENDA-  
TION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Alex of Libby, a recipient of the 2018 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Alex served his country in the United States Air Force for more than two decades, including service in the Vietnam War. Beginning his career in 1953, he retired a Senior Master Sergeant in 1976, working as an Aircraft Jet Engine Maintenance Superintendent.

Mr. Alex's leadership and dedication to the community is evident through his many years of service at area schools as an administrator and school board member.

On Veterans Day, Mr. Alex proudly speaks to area students about his 23-year military career. According to Libby resident and school-teacher Chrys Marchant, "He makes everyone feel welcome and valuable in all situations."

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending John Alex for his dedication and service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the chamber on Monday, December 10, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on roll call votes 426 and 427.

IN RECOGNITION OF RICHARD  
CLINE

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Richard Cline as he concludes his service on the City Council of Menlo Park. He leaves a record of passionate commitment to the priorities of housing, transportation and education.

A few years ago, as the economy was finally recovering, Councilman Cline and I visited a large development for seniors. It sits on a main entrance to the Belle Haven neighborhood. Sequoia Belle Haven offers 90 deeply discounted apartments to seniors, plus amenities such as organized events and access to public transit. It is a model that reflects the commitment of the entire city to its elderly, low income population. Councilman Cline was very proud, and rightfully so. As a member of the

council, he knew many long-time Menlo Park residents who would benefit by moving to this new development.

He was also very enthusiastic about building housing at the site of an abandoned school located in Menlo Park. It appears that the district and the city have agreed that this would be a good site for faculty/staff housing, and that the site has since been cleared in preparation for future development. During his 12 years on the council, he supported the revitalization of the downtown plan which included hundreds of new housing units.

In Menlo Park, parks and recreation are treasured. Councilman Cline helped guide the city council during a period of significant construction on the Burgess Campus, the passage of bonds for a sports field, and construction of an ever-expanding bike lane system.

The City of Menlo Park is blessed with exploding economic development. As a councilmember who sat on the council through the Great Recession and who had to make very painful cuts to the city's budget in order to deliver balanced budgets for 10 of his 12 years of service, Rich Cline has seen both sides of the economic cycle. He supported tiered pensions for sustainability and worked hard with his colleagues to ensure that prudent reserves were created during times when property and sales taxes rise.

He advocated for smart growth along transportation corridors and for mitigations to the Facebook development that would put housing closer to the campus, create shuttles, and potentially reactivate a rail line across the bay to reduce vehicle traffic. At some point, long-anticipated improvements to the Willow Road overcrossing will be finalized. While Rich Cline will not be on the council when the intersection is opened, his support was vital to ensuring that this community-wide benefit is implemented.

In his elections to the council, he was variously supported by the Sierra Club and labor, community leaders and businesses. Rich Cline is a pragmatist and a respectful leader, which is part of the reason that his colleagues elected him Mayor of Menlo Park on three separate occasions.

As he retires from the council to concentrate on his business and family, we want to thank his wife Julie, and their three children, Maria, Chiara and Gina, for allowing Rich to spend so much time on public affairs during these three terms on the council. He will be missed as he leaves an indelible impact on Menlo Park. His service is an excellent example of the quality of local leadership that exists in San Mateo County, and of the strength of democracy in cities throughout America.

TRIBUTE TO MARION ASHLEY

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to our region have been exceptional. After serving 16 years on the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, my good friend Marion Ashley will be stepping down.

Marion is a native of Riverside County, a member of a pioneer Perris Valley family, and

has long shown his deep commitment to the people of Riverside County. He attended local schools: Perris Union High School, Riverside City College and graduated San Diego State University with a major in Business Management. Marion spent years in the private sector as a CPA with a national accounting firm, a corporate executive, a banker, and established a real estate investment firm. He also served the public as a Riverside County Planning Commissioner from 1973 to 1981, and was elected to a serve on the Board of the Eastern Municipal Water District from 1992 to 2002.

In 2002, Marion was elected to the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, where he has become a respected leader on regional issues. As a County Supervisor he oversees a budget of \$5.3 billion and sets public policy for nearly 2.4 million people. Marion's leadership has made a tremendous impact on a variety of initiatives critical to Riverside County's future, including the Riverside County Integrated Project, the Perris Valley Metrolink Line, and the construction of numerous public safety and transportation infrastructure projects. For the benefit of future generations, Marion and his family have donated hundreds of acres of land in the hills west of Perris to help create a permanent wildlife refuge and supported countless charitable causes.

Marion has contributed immensely to the betterment of our region and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. To conclude, Mr. Speaker I want to thank Marion for his service to the Inland Empire—his dedication, insight and passion will be greatly missed.

RECOGNIZING HARRY ARMSTRONG  
FOR THE 2018 MONTANA CON-  
GRESSIONAL VETERAN COM-  
MENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harry Armstrong of Belgrade, a recipient of the 2018 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Armstrong joined the United States Marine Corps in 1964 and competed in shooting sports throughout the United States for the Marine Corps Shooting Team. He completed his 12-year active and reserve duty military career in 1976, retiring with the rank of Staff Sergeant.

Since 2014, Mr. Armstrong has served as the Commandant of the Marine Corps League Robert Ellard Detachment 1050. His passion for shooting sports has led him to open a private shooting range on his ranch for veterans to gather, talk, and in some cases, heal. On the day before Memorial Day each year, Montana veterans and their families join Harry and Louise Armstrong on their ranch where they are treated to a special day in remembrance of their fallen comrades and loved ones.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Harry Armstrong for his dedication and service.

HONORING MARISSA LYNCH

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a former member of my staff, Marissa Lynch, for her work in my office and her service to our state.

Marissa served as my Deputy Chief of Staff in Indiana during my first and second terms in Congress. In that role, she managed our district offices, improved our constituent outreach programs, and oversaw our Indiana-based staff. Since leaving our office, Marissa started her own consulting company and now has clients around the state.

On a personal note, I admire Marissa's commitment to her faith and family. Marissa works very hard and delivers great results. But, you always have the sense that Marissa's priorities are in the right order. Marissa is a wise advisor and loyal friend.

I want to thank Marissa for her friendship and her hard work in our office. I wish Marissa continued success in all that God has planned for her family.

HUMAN RIGHTS WITHOUT BORDERS EXHIBIT & "HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOM DEFENDER" AWARD CEREMONY

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to include in the RECORD my speech at yesterday's event, "Human Rights without Borders," organized by the Wei Jingsheng Foundation and the European Union Parliamentary Liaison Office. It was my privilege to receive the "Human Rights and Freedom Defender" award.

We must continue to shine a light on human rights abuses in China. I look forward to working with my colleagues on a bipartisan basis to continue to carry the torch for liberty in China and globally.

Thank you all so much for the invitation to this very poignant exhibit, "Human Rights without Borders."

Thank you to Wei Jingsheng as well as Antoine Ripoll of the European Parliament Liaison Office for so graciously hosting this very special event.

Wei, what a pleasure to see you again. I had the honor of hosting him in my district 16 years ago at the Toledo Labor Day Parade, as well as an event at the University of Toledo.

And thank you all for continuing to carry forward the flame of human rights in China, and across the world.

What an honor to receive this reward. I am truly humbled.

I would like to dedicate it to all the freedom fighters in China and across the world that are being detained, tortured, or persecuted due to their pursuit of liberty.

As you all know, human rights and democratic principles are not just for wishful thinking.

These principles are central to our nation's security because we know a more democratic world is a more secure world. We know that countries with strong human rights records

are more prosperous, stable, and reliable partners to build world peace.

Tragically, the Chinese regime has a deeply troubling human rights record.

As we speak, up to one million Uyghur Muslims are languishing in concentration camps in North West China.

At least 321 Tibetans have been detained since 2012, yet heroically continue their struggle for self-determination.

Meanwhile, millions of Chinese workers toil away at penny-wages in slave conditions to benefit the Chinese regime and transnational corporations.

There is no freedom of association to form trade unions, leaving the level of occupational disease and injuries alarmingly high. And also prevents oversight of child labor and severe abuse of migrant and ethnic minority workers.

During peak production season, workers are forced to cover 80-175 overtime hours per month with little to no protections, exposed to hazardous chemicals and deadly working conditions.

More than 480 million people in China—one third of its population—live on less than \$2 a day.

The lack of an independent judiciary, independent press, rule of law, and due process raise serious concerns of core principals of fundamental human rights.

With such an ancient and rich culture, the Chinese people deserve better than this brutish and crude oppression.

As Congress debated allowing China into the World Trade Organization, many argued that welcoming China into the world fold would lead to democratization. They said that a middle class would demand their rights.

Instead, we've seen more oppression and a more aggressive Chinese foreign policy that can use its new-found riches to challenge American influence abroad.

China has yet to open its markets to American goods. Our trade deficits have soared, clocking in at over \$375 billion in 2017 alone and despite promises from the Trump Administration to correct this gaping imbalance.

As a result, American workers in Ohio and across the Midwest have lost thousands of jobs to corporate greed and offshoring.

Free trade with China has surely been a one-sided deal.

Just as China shows a blatant disdain for human rights and rule of law in their own country, she tramples upon international law and seeks to overturn the global rules-based order.

As a strategic competitor, she seeks to spread its propaganda and tear down the virtues of democracy. She would seek to replace the blessings of liberty and replace it with its oppressive and dark ideology.

China provides diplomatic cover and assistance to the pariah-state North Korea that threatens global security with nuclear weapons and intercontinental missiles.

China fails to control illicit flows of fentanyl into the United States killing so many unsuspecting victims in my District, Northern Ohio, and across America.

While the United States takes a step back in global leadership and diplomacy, China is too eager to fill the void. We see China investing millions in developing nations in South American and Africa, spreading its undemocratic and tyrannical influence.

We watch as Chinese foreign aid and influence pays dividends in nations as they shift to recognize mainland China over a free and democratic Taiwan.

China seeks to illegally take control of international waters in the South China sea-way and undertakes aggressive naval maneuvers to challenge stability in the region provided by our naval fleet.

China's global strategy and dominance is that of a sleeping dragon. But with its aggressive state-driven Belt and Road Initiative, which will invest \$1 trillion on development projects globally, America can no longer tip-toe around the dragon.

As a Member of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, I join my colleagues in the commitment to work to hold China accountable on its deeply disturbing human rights record.

We need to take China's failure to live up to its commitment much more seriously. We need a trade policy that creates jobs in the U.S. And we must continue to check China's revisionist and aggressive foreign policy.

Thank you all again for this great honor, and I look forward to working with you and my colleagues on a bipartisan basis to continue carrying the torch for human rights in China and globally.

RECOGNIZING DONALD BOST FOR THE 2018 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Donald Bost of Lewistown, a recipient of the 2018 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Bost was a member of the U.S. Navy Seabees Mobile Construction Battalion 58 in 1968 and 1969. For his service in Vietnam, he earned the National Defense Ribbon and the Vietnam Service Medal.

In Lewistown, Mr. Bost has been a steadfast contributor to numerous community and veteran projects. He is the Commander of American Legion Fergus Post 16 and has donated countless hours working on the Veterans Memorial Park and various events.

As an active member of the local Chamber of Commerce for 34 years, Mr. Bost helped boost the area's economy by working to establish the Nexus Treatment Center and Western Transportation Institute facilities in Lewistown. He readily participates in more than a dozen local business, civic, and veteran organizations, and his involvement with local historic attractions helps keep the area's tourism industry vibrant.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Donald Bost for his dedication and service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NEW RALEIGH, N.C. HEADQUARTERS OF ADVANCE AUTO PARTS, INC.

**HON. GEORGE HOLDING**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Advance Auto Parts, Inc. on the recent relocation of its headquarters to Raleigh, N.C.

I am proud that for the second straight year in a row North Carolina has topped Forbes' "Best States for Business" list. Our well-educated workforce and low taxes continue to attract valuable businesses to the region from all

over the world. North Carolina has cultivated one of the strongest business climates in the country and we are proud to open our doors to a wide variety of industries from retail to biotechnology.

I applaud Advance Auto Parts for its decision to expand operations in our thriving Raleigh community and am excited for the future growth opportunities companies like these bring to North Carolina every day.

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HONORING KATY CANNON

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a former member of my staff, Katy Cannon, for her work in my office and her service to our state.

Katy worked as part of our team in Washington, D.C., for over five years. Katy has an incredible work ethic and was a tremendous asset to our operation. She brought a wealth of experience and knowledge to our team and was someone I could rely on for advice.

On a personal note, Katy is a kind soul, with a positive spirit and consistent big smile. Katy works extremely hard, but never forgets to treat people the right way. I am proud to call her my friend.

I would also like to thank Katy for her kindness to my family and her hard work for our operation. I wish her and Matt continued success in all that remains ahead for their family.

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IN RECOGNITION OF PRADEEP GUPTA

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Pradeep Gupta as he departs the South San Francisco city council. Councilman Gupta served four years during a time of enormous change in South San Francisco, and previously served for three years as a planning commissioner.

South San Francisco is a city of 67,000 with a long and colorful history. Immigrants settled in the early 1900's and were the backbone of a thriving industrial hub. The city was once home to steel mills, meat packing plants, and paint manufacturers, among many industrial enterprises. Today, South San Francisco is universally recognized as the biotechnology capital of the world, and the founding location of the biotechnology industry with Genentech's establishment in 1976 in the city's Oyster Point area.

Pradeep Gupta fits well with his city's history. In 1964, he arrived in the United States from India with a superb education and ambition, but little money. He attended Purdue and obtained his MSEE in 1966 and his PhD in Electrical Engineering in 1969. He had a successful engineering career around the globe working with Southern California Edison, the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), and as a consultant to USAID and the World Bank on international energy projects. Ultimately,

Pradeep and his wife, Kumkum, settled in South San Francisco.

Councilman Gupta is a scientist at heart, and a leader in growing the connections between industry and local schools. He initiated the Steering Committee on Biotechnology, Workforce and Education. He worked hard with the Genentech Foundation so that a new \$7.9 million biotechnology laboratory at South San Francisco High School could be approved and constructed. Today's students in South San Francisco schools come from around the globe. Councilman Gupta is living proof that America thrives when its immigrants have opportunity. Extending this lesson to others, and using his position on the council for educational advocacy, is a passion of Councilman Gupta.

Population growth is rarely without conflict. Historically, South San Francisco has extended the hand of welcome to new arrivals and allowed for the construction of ample housing at affordable prices. In recent years, global capital flowing into the biotechnology sector has brought explosive employment growth to the east side of the city. Councilman Gupta was far-sighted enough to welcome new, high density housing in the city's core and around the train station so that employees could find homes near their jobs. On numerous occasions over the years, Councilman Gupta remarked to me or to my staff about how troubled he was by the hardships created by skyrocketing rental and homeownership costs. He can be proud that developments near the core and near the BART station around Chestnut and the El Camino Real will allow many families to settle and work in the community.

San Mateo County is one of a few communities to have created its own electricity aggregator. Peninsula Clean Energy delivers greener, less expensive electricity than the existing utility. Councilman Gupta, with his extensive history in the industry, was an invaluable contributor to the effort to bring this service to San Mateo County residents.

Among his many responsibilities on the council, he has served as a board member of the Association of Bay Area Governments, as the Chair of the Economic Strategy Group, as Mayor in 2017, and as a board member of the C/CAG Resource Management and Climate Protection Committee. He performs all these official duties while also being a loving father to his children Seema and Susheem, and a loving grandfather to grandson David and granddaughters Riya, Raveena, and Nadia.

I closing, I want to remark upon the goodwill and grace of Pradeep Gupta. He is my friend, and I've known him to be passionate, but I've never seen him cross. I've known him to be energetic, but he's always organized. His constituents recognize him as highly educated but nonetheless a man who easily relates to others. In short, he is a quintessential leader of South San Francisco—outgoing, responsive to community needs, and deeply devoted to his family. As he closes this chapter in his life, others will open.

I spent my childhood in this city, and despite all of the outward change the community remains rooted in family, faith and country. In sum, South San Francisco, the Industrial City, is a place of generous, loving people vigorously engaged in the enterprise of building the United States of America. Pradeep Gupta will be remembered by his neighbors and friends as a master builder.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN TAVAGLIONE

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to our region have been exceptional. After serving 24 years on the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, my good friend John Tavaglione will be stepping down.

John is a fourth generation resident of Riverside County and has dedicated much of his life to improving the Inland Empire region. John received his bachelor's degree in business administration from California Baptist University and is a proud U.S. Army veteran. His professional career spanned nearly 25 years as a commercial real estate executive. Prior to his election to the Board of Supervisors, he served on the Riverside City Council and was a member of the Riverside Public Utilities Commission. In 1994, John was elected to represent the Second District on the Riverside County Board of Supervisors.

As a member of the Board of Supervisors, John has been credited for his leadership in regional transportation issues, community and economic development, parks and open space preservation, and for his strong fiscal and organizational management. In 2010, John was selected to serve as President of the California State Association of Counties by California's 58 counties. Over the years, John and his wife Jan have graciously helped to send hundreds of students to college by hosting an annual fundraiser where all proceeds go towards scholarships for graduating high school seniors in his district.

John has contributed immensely to the betterment of our region and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and my friend. To conclude, Mr. Speaker I want to thank John for his service to the Inland Empire—his dedication, insight and passion will be greatly missed.

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HONORING KATHY NICKEL FOR HER TIRELESS SERVICE IN ADDRESSING THE OPIOID CRISIS

**HON. ANN M. KUSTER**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our Brookings Fellow, Kathy Nickel. I am sad to say that her last day in my office is today, December 14th. I thank Kathy for her work on addressing the opioid crisis. Her service to the people of New Hampshire and the United States of America is truly appreciated.

Kathy, like many of us, is personally affected by the opioid epidemic. Her desire to make a positive impact in our nation's struggle with this "disease of the brain" brought her to Washington from her home in Oxford, Ohio. An accomplished employee for the Environmental Protection Agency, she brought a passion and perspective that is greatly needed here in Washington.

As you might expect, Kathy was a wonderful liaison to families and community leaders

grappling with the crisis at home. The compassion she embodied brought people together not in grief but with the hope that this crisis can be solved, together. I was proud to have her represent me at a national conference on drug misuse in correctional settings and Kathy demonstrated her ability to bring people together.

But, she will also leave an important legislative legacy for my office. She crafted legislation that would improve the delivery of medication-assisted treatment in correctional settings. Through her work on this issue, Kathy went above and beyond merely crafting said legislation—she brought together disparate stakeholders to champion the bill. The Corrections Public Health and Community Re-entry Act will be one of my top priorities for the next Congress.

Moreover, she started what will be an important issue for the 116th Congress to consider—whether to eliminate a half-century old prohibition on the use of Medicaid in a correctional setting. Her work on uncovering the negative impacts to what is known as the Medicaid Inmate Exclusion may prove transformational. Few fellows can say they have personally crafted such impressive legislation.

Kathy was a fantastic team member. Her kindness and positive attitude will be missed in our office. I wish her the best of luck in her next endeavor with the EPA. I thank her again for her dedication and service.

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HONORING TIM HAWKINS

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

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

Tim is a dedicated public servant who has worked diligently on behalf of the people of the 6th District. During his time as a Congressional staffer, Tim has helped countless individuals navigate the complex federal bureaucracy and receive the help they need. He was instrumental in developing the Lawrenceburg job fair and continuing the long tradition of the Muncie job fair. Since leaving our office, Tim has worked as a Government Relations Administrator with the State of Indiana, earned a law degree, and now works as an Associate at Jeff Jinks Law.

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

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RECOGNIZING MICAH FINK FOR THE 2018 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Micah Fink of Manhattan, a re-

ipient of the 2018 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Fink served with the U.S. Navy SEALs in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other conflict zones, receiving the Bronze Star and other honors for his actions. In his 10 years as a Navy SEAL, Mr. Fink conducted operations for United States Pacific Command, United States Central Command, and National Tasking Deployment using land and undersea mobility platforms.

In Manhattan, Mr. Fink founded Heroes and Horses, a non-profit organization that seeks to help veterans coping with PTSD. Mr. Fink and his organization take veterans into the Montana wilderness where they are challenged to perform under pressure during weeks-long excursions. The challenge of a trying environment without the combat element allows veterans to reclaim those parts of themselves they left behind in war, Mr. Fink says.

Mr. Fink's tireless efforts have aided veterans who may need a unique way to heal from the aftermath of war.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Micah Fink for his dedication and service.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on December 10, 2018 for Roll Call Vote 426 and Roll Call Vote 427. Had I been present, my vote would have been the following: Yea on Roll Call Vote 426 and Yea on 427.

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TRIBUTE TO RANDY RECORD

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to my good friend Randy Record. At the end of the year, Randy will be stepping down after serving four years as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Metropolitan is a regional wholesaler and the largest distributor of treated drinking water in the United States.

As a Riverside County native, Randy has been active in the San Jacinto farming community for over three decades. In addition, Randy currently owns and operates a wine grape vineyard in the Central Coast with his wife and two daughters. Randy is currently an executive committee member of the Southern California Leadership Council, as well as a member of the Riverside County Farm Bureau, the California Association of Winegrape Growers, the Monday Morning Group of Western Riverside County, and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association.

In 2001, Randy was elected to serve on the Eastern Municipal Water District's Board of Directors. Just two years later, Randy was chosen to represent Eastern on Metropolitan's

Board. Randy's path followed in the footsteps of his father, Clayton A. Record, Jr., who served as Eastern's representative to Metropolitan's Board from June 1999 to January 2001. As both a past president of the Association of California Water Agencies and, more recently, as Chairman of Metropolitan's Board, Randy has demonstrated tremendous leadership in addressing California's unending list of water challenges. The proposed California WaterFix project is one of the most ambitious water infrastructure projects in the history of our state, if not the nation. The project's goal of providing a reliable and affordable source of water to tens of millions of California families and businesses will play a major role in shaping the future of our state. Randy's leadership on this project has been instrumental in moving the project forward.

Without Randy's tireless advocacy and the strong relationships he's developed over the years throughout the state, projects like the WaterFix and Metropolitan's other policy objectives simply would not be possible. As Randy's friend and as his colleague in the water policy arena, I am incredibly proud of the many accomplishments he's achieved during his tenure as Metropolitan's Chairman. Randy will continue to serve on the Board for both Eastern and Metropolitan, and I look forward to our continued work together to provide California with water solutions.

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RECOGNIZING STEPHEN GARRISON FOR THE 2018 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Stephen Garrison of Helena, a recipient of the 2018 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Garrison served in the U.S. Army from 1975 to 2005 in the Judge Advocate General's Corps and saw duty during Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm. Mr. Garrison received numerous honors for outstanding service and achievement in the Army, including the Legion of Merit, the Army Achievement Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal. He completed his 30-year military career as an Army Colonel.

Mr. Garrison spends countless hours working for Montana Joining Community Forces, a community coalition made up of veteran service providers and organizations committed to aiding service members and their families. Often at his own expense, Mr. Garrison has helped veterans in danger of becoming homeless. He has also staged successful interventions for veterans dealing with substance abuse and used his legal expertise to help veterans navigate the justice system.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Stephen Garrison for his dedication and service.

IN RECOGNITION OF LIZA  
NORMANDY

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Liza Normandy for her five years of service on the South San Francisco City Council, including this year as the Mayor. Liza is firmly committed to keeping South San Francisco diverse and thriving so that all residents can live, work and eventually retire in this San Francisco Peninsula town of 67,000.

Mayor Normandy has been a strong advocate for affordable housing, solutions to the gridlock on our roads, infrastructure upgrades, youth and senior programs and fiscal responsibility. During her tenure on the council she served on the Community Development Block Grant Subcommittee, the Downtown Subcommittee, the Financial/Budget/Audit/Investment Subcommittee, the Harbor District Liaison Subcommittee and the South San Francisco School District Liaison Subcommittee. She also represented South City on the Airport Land Use Committee, the Housing Our People Effectively (HOPE) Leadership Committee, the Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance, the SFO Airport Community Roundtable, the San Mateo County Emergency Services Council and the Housing Endowment and Regional Trust (HEART) of San Mateo County.

As a proud mother of two, Thomas and Ariel, Liza has also been a tireless champion of education. She served on the South San Francisco Unified School District Board of Trustees from 2006 to 2013, two of them as president. Her focus was on preparing our students for successful and productive careers in the 21st century by modernizing school sites, promoting STEM and arts education, and balancing budgets. Liza understands full well that education is the foundation for the success of our future generations.

Liza was the first Asian-American elected to the school board, the second Asian-American elected to the city council, and only the third woman to serve on the council. For the last two years, she spearheaded the South San Francisco Women's Networking Forum, a series of evening forums designed to motivate women to get involved in local government. During the same period, Liza became an ordained minister and officiated seven weddings.

Originally from Pusan, Korea, Liza immigrated to the U.S. and graduated from Jefferson High School in 1991. She is currently pursuing a degree in Human and Social Sciences.

With that many professional obligations, it is hard to imagine where Liza finds any spare time to volunteer but she does give her energy and expertise to the South San Francisco Asian Alliance, of which she is a founding member, the Police Athletic League Boosters, Friends of the Library, the Historical Society and Friends of Parks & Recreation, among others.

Liza departs from the council to pursue her current position as CEO of the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce which will allow her to stay actively involved in our community. Her goal to improve the quality of life for all residents of South City hasn't changed

and we will continue to benefit from her leadership and engagement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the Members of the House of Representatives to join me in thanking Liza Normandy for her twelve years of public service to South San Franciscans of all ages, backgrounds and cultures. I commend her for her contributions and wish her well in her future endeavors.

HONORING LIZ BRAUN

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a former member of my staff, Liz Braun, for her work in my office and her service to our state.

Liz worked on our team for nearly three years, serving as Communications Director. In that role, she developed and executed a national and statewide communications strategy, was responsible for all office media relations, and served as my spokesperson. Since leaving our office, Liz has gone on to serve as the Communications Director for Chairman JEB HENSARLING and now works as Press Secretary and Spokesperson for Secretary Betsy DeVos at the U.S. Department of Education.

On a personal note, I admire Liz's commitment to her family. Liz works very hard and delivers great results. But, you always have the sense that Liz's priorities are in the right order.

I would like to thank Liz for her friendship and hard work in our office. I wish her and her husband Mike continued success in all that God has planned for their family. I have no doubt Liz's biggest impact on our nation is yet to come.

THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS  
CONGRESS

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Texas was its own republic from 1836 to 1845. Just like any other republic, the young country had a legislature, outlined in the Constitution of the Republic of Texas. The Congress of the Republic of Texas was based on the United States Congress. Both were bicameral and had a similar committee structure and age requirements to be elected.

Throughout its short history, the Nation of Texas had nine congresses. The first Congress gavelled in on October 3, 1836 in Columbia, Texas. In November of 1839, the Texas Congress met for the first and only time in Austin. However, Austin was considered too dangerous of a meeting place because it was on the western frontier and more exposed to Native Americans, so the Republic's Congress would meet in Houston and Washington-on-the-Brazos between 1842 and 1845.

After Texas was admitted to the Union in 1845, Austin was reaffirmed as the capitol of Texas. The first capitol building in Austin was completed in 1855 but burnt down in 1881.

The next capitol building, which is still where the state legislature meets, was dedicated in 1888. Texans are quick to point out that the Texas Capitol is 15 feet taller than the United States Capitol.

To belabor the point, the San Jacinto Monument that honors the victory and independence of Texas from Mexico, is taller than the similar Washington Monument.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING HAROLD "PETE"  
GODTLAND FOR THE 2018 MONTANA  
CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN  
COMMENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harold "Pete" Godtland of Butte, a recipient of the 2018 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and dedication to his community.

Mr. Godtland served in the United States Army during World War II as a member of the 7th Infantry Division in the Pacific Ocean theater. Mr. Godtland fought at the Battle of Okinawa in 1945, persevering alongside his fellow infantrymen in the largest amphibious assault in the Pacific theater of World War II. Mr. Godtland remained with the Army until 1946, returning home from his posting in Korea following the end of World War II.

Mr. Godtland routinely honors his fellow veterans as a bugler at military funerals as a member of United Veterans Council's Honor Guard. He has further lent his musical talents to St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel Summer Music Festival at Georgetown Lake, and has been a member of the Butte Symphony. He also volunteers his time and expertise as an architect helping with various community projects such as the Butte Carousel and swimming pool.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Pete Godtland for his dedication and service.

HONORING MAYOR TERESA "TITA"  
SMITH

**HON. J. LUIS CORREA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the distinguished career of the Honorable City of Orange Mayor Teresa "Tita" Smith, who is a lifelong resident of her hometown: Orange, California. Mayor Smith is an experienced community leader who began her service to the community in 1986 when she founded the Old Towne Preservation Association (OTPA), which works to preserve the historic neighborhoods in the City of Orange. Mayor Smith has been recognized twice by OTPA, winning the Spirit of Old Towne Award in 2000 and Volunteer of the Year in 2006.

Her involvement in the City of Orange continued when she was appointed to the Orange Centennial Committee in 1988, the East Orange Advisory Committee in 1990, and served

as the chairperson of the Planning Commission in 1992.

Mayor Smith's commitment to the City of Orange is evident by the thousands of hours she has given to the community. She is the Founding President of the Pitcher Park Community Foundation, served on the Orange Planning Commission for over ten years, dedicated 33 years to volunteering at the Orange International Street Fair, and has served on the Young Women's Christian Association Advisory Board; a program dedicated to empowering women and young girls on an economic and social level.

Other deserved awards of Mayor Smith are the 2009 Commerce Award from the Orange Chamber of Commerce and the William T. Glassell Award from the Orange Community Historical Society in 2011.

Her passion and love for Orange lead her to serve on the Orange City Council in 2004, as Mayor Pro Tem from January 2009 to February 2012, and Mayor from 2012 to 2018.

Mayor Smith will be dearly missed as she completes her term on the Orange City Council as Mayor on Tuesday, December 11, 2018. Her heart belongs to the City of Orange and I thank her for her dedicated service throughout the years.

IN RECOGNITION OF KIRSTEN  
KEITH

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Kirsten Keith, a great community leader and personal friend, for her eight years of outstanding service on the Menlo Park City Council, two terms as Mayor. Kirsten decided to run for city council in 2010 during one of the worst years of the Great Recession when the city and the region were in distress. Her willingness to step up to serve her community during tough times exemplifies her unwavering commitment and determination to help others.

Kirsten was instrumental in steering Menlo Park's budget from deficit, due to the Great Recession, into recovery. She served on the Finance and Audit Committee and the Business Development Council Subcommittee and she represented Menlo Park in the Association of Bay Area Governments.

She and her council colleagues hired now-former city manager Alex McIntyre to build a 21st century organization. Today, Menlo Park has a population of 34,000 people. Facebook, its largest employer with 15,000 employees, moved to the city in 2011 when Kirsten was Mayor the first time. The city is also home to financial and investment powerhouses such as Intuit, numerous major venture capital firms, and the Stanford National Accelerator Laboratory.

In recent years, the explosion in employment outpaced the construction of residential units and has led in part to our housing crisis and gridlock on our roads. Eighty percent of the traffic in Menlo Park neither begins nor ends within its borders. Kirsten has been a fierce advocate for affordable housing and improvements to reduce traffic congestion, notably supporting transit-oriented housing along the El Camino Real.

Kirsten's tenure on the council is the continuation of more than two decades of public service and volunteering for numerous organizations in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. She was appointed to the San Mateo County Commission on the Status of Women in 1996 where she served for eight years, two as chair. In 1997, she joined the board of the Legal Aid Society of San Mateo and continues to serve on the Fundraising Luncheon Committee. She served on the Community Meditation Services Committee, the Housing Committee and the Planning Commission. She also joined the boards of Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA), the Service League of San Mateo County, the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG), Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse (CORA), the Dumbarton Rail Policy Committee, the County of Santa Clara Community Resources Group for Stanford University, the Grand Boulevard Task Force, and the San Francisco Joint Powers Authority. She represents Menlo Park on the Caltrain Modernization Local Policy Group.

As you can surmise from this long list, Kirsten's energy is inexhaustible. She is always the first to raise her hand to volunteer or tackle an issue—and she does it with a warm smile on her face.

Kirsten earned her B.A. in Political Science at the University of California, Santa Barbara and her J.D. in Law with Public Interest Law Award from Golden Gate University, School of Law. As an attorney, she has practiced immigration and family law and has made it her mission for twenty years to defend indigent clients in criminal court.

While Kirsten's time on the council is coming to an end, I know she will continue to stay engaged as a community leader and fight for justice and a better quality of life for all residents of our region. She will also have a little more time for her beloved husband John and daughter Claire and son Liam, who allowed Kirsten to spend countless hours in city council and committee meetings, serving the public.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in thanking an outstanding community leader and colleague Kirsten Keith for her stellar service to the residents of Menlo Park. She can look back to 2010 when her hometown was crumbling under the pressure of the recession and feel proud that it is today a thriving city. Her contributions have left an indelible mark and will be felt for years to come.

RECOGNIZING MIGUEL GONZALEZ  
FOR THE 2018 MONTANA  
CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN  
COMMENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Miguel Gonzalez of Billings, a recipient of the 2018 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Gonzalez began his military service in 1980 as an infantryman in the United States

Army. He served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and concluded his military career in 2009 due to injury. For his meritorious conduct and heroic acts during his time of service, Mr. Gonzalez was awarded the Army Commendation Medal.

In 2015, Mr. Gonzalez started Warrior Wishes Montana, a volunteer organization that supports former service members. The organization repairs homes and vehicles, and provides furniture, financial assistance, food, clothing and comfort to veterans and their families. Even while working through his own medical issues, Mr. Gonzalez remains dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of others. Colleague Megan Burgoni of the Montana VA notes glowingly that Mr. Gonzalez "has devoted his heart, his time, and his resources to connecting and honoring our local veterans."

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Miguel Gonzalez for his dedication and service.

HONORING QUINCY CUNNINGHAM

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a longtime member of my staff, Quincy Cunningham, for his work in my office and his service to our state.

Quincy worked as Special Projects Coordinator in our Indiana office for two years. He is an invaluable member of our team and always delivers when tasked with an assignment. Since leaving our office, Quincy has gone on to work for Congressman-Elect Jim Baird as his campaign manager.

On personal note, Quincy and I share a love of the life lessons of sports and a commitment to faith and family. Quincy has been my advisor, but more importantly, I consider Quincy my friend. I am grateful for his patience in our countless hours traveling the state.

I wish Quincy continued success in all that God has planned for him and his family. I have no doubt Quincy's biggest impact on our state and nation are yet to come. I look forward to cheering Quincy on in those efforts.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION  
TO IMPLEMENT SAFETY REGULATIONS  
RELATED TO AMPHIBIOUS PASSENGER  
VESSELS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill to implement safety regulations for amphibious passenger vessels, including those known as duck boats. These safety recommendations were made by federal agencies to address known problems associated with duck boats that have resulted in far too many injuries and fatalities.

I became aware of these problems when my constituents, the Coleman family, were involved in a horrible duck boat accident on July



19, 2018 in Branson, Missouri. Tia Coleman was one of only two survivors from her family of 11, losing her husband Glenn and her children Reece (nine years old), Evan (seven years old), and Arya (one year old). Tia's 13 year old nephew, Donovan Coleman, was the other surviving family member, losing his mother Angela, his younger brother Maxwell (two years old), his uncles Ervin (76 years old) and Butch (70 years old), and his aunt Belinda (69 years old). Boarding a duck boat on Table Rock Lake started out as a fun outing for family members but turned into an unspeakable tragedy when the boat capsized and sank. Seventeen of the 31 passengers on board were killed.

Investigations by state and federal authorities are still underway and lawsuits are pending over the specifics of this incident. But there is a long record of problems associated with duck boat operations that can be addressed now. Since 1999 more than 40 people have died in duck boats accidents, the vast majority of them from drowning when the vessel sinks. In 2002, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued recommendations to improve the safety of the vessels in cases of flooding or sinking, but little has been done to implement those measures. We know from these past incidents that more can be done to make these vessels safe. Congress does not need to wait to act.

While we wait to learn more about the specific circumstances and causes that led to the tragedy on Table Rock Lake, this legislation would implement the NTSB's past recommendations to improve the ability of duck boats (officially referred to as "amphibious passenger vessels") to stay afloat in a flooding or sinking situation.

Specifically, this bill would direct the Coast Guard to issue regulations within 180 days to require operators of amphibious passenger vessels to retrofit their vessels to provide reserve buoyancy. Vessel operators would have no longer than two years to comply with the requirements.

While vessel operators work to comply with the reserve buoyancy requirements, this bill directs them to implement interim measures to improve vessel safety, including:

a. Remove canopies from vessels for waterborne operations, or replacing canopies with structures that do not restrict escape in the event of flooding or sinking;

b. If canopies are removed, require that all passengers wear a personal flotation device while the vessel is on the water;

c. Permanently close all unnecessary access plugs and reduce through-hull penetrations to the minimum number and size necessary;

d. Install independently-powered electric bilge pumps;

e. Install not fewer than four independently-powered bilge alarms;

f. Mandate inspection of vessels in water after each through-hull penetration;

g. Verify watertight integrity of vessels in the water at the outset of each waterborne departure; and

h. Otherwise comply with existing Coast Guard regulations related to the inspection, configuration, and operation of such vessels.

Those vessels that do not meet the 180-day deadline to implement interim safety measures, as well as those that do not meet the two-year deadline to install reserve buoyancy

systems, would be prohibited from operating on U.S. waterways until they are in compliance.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill to make common-sense corrections to the persistent safety problems facing duck boats so that no other family must face the kind of tragedy faced by my constituents on Table Rock Lake. I want to thank my colleague, Senator MCCASKILL, for introducing the companion measure, S. 3301, and I urge the House to support this bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF GENEVIEVE  
SHIROMA

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Genevieve Shiroma as she retires from her post as Board Member of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD). I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Shiroma for her leadership and commitment to the residents of Ward 4 and all of California.

Elected to the SMUD Board in November 1998, Ms. Shiroma has served the many residents in her region, Ward 4. During her tenure, she has been elected as president of the Board four times, indicating the impressive work she has accomplished since her first election.

Since graduating from University of California, Davis with a bachelor's degree in Material Science and Engineering, Ms. Shiroma has achieved an illustrious career in local and state government and has long been an advocate for policies benefiting all Californians. With over two decades of experience at the California Air Resources Board, Ms. Shiroma has excelled in her field and has been an important leader in improving air quality programs and regulations, which has undoubtedly improved the health and well being of Californians. In addition to her work with the State and the SMUD Board, Ms. Shiroma has also been serving on the Agricultural Labor Relations Board for the State of California since 1999.

Ms. Shiroma is also a civic leader in our region, lending her time to numerous non-profit organizations. She has served on the Boards of the Sierra-Curtis Neighborhood Association, United Way California Capital Region, B Street Theatre, Planned Parenthood Mar Monte, and the Friends Committee for My Sister's House. Ms. Shiroma is also a Senior Fellow with the American Leadership Forum Mountain Valley Chapter.

Mr. Speaker, as family, friends and fellow SMUD Board Members join to celebrate Ms. Shiroma's successful and impactful career, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring her exemplary leadership and contribution to our community.

HONORING DALE BUWALDA

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a longtime member of my staff, Dale Buwalda, for his work in my office and his service to our state.

Dale has been on our team for nearly four years now, serving as our Field Director in Indiana. Over the years, he has represented our office at hundreds of events around Indiana, helped organize and plan the Muncie and Lawrenceburg job fairs, and has helped numerous individuals navigate the federal bureaucracy and receive the help they need.

On a personal note, I've known Dale for almost twenty years. He is one of my favorite people in Indiana politics. I admire Dale's loyalty, intellect, and positive spirit. Dale is the kind of leader who strengthens any team.

I want to thank Dale for his friendship and his hard work in our office. I wish him continued success in all that God has planned for Dale and his family.

RECOGNIZING ELECTION WINNERS

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the following local winners of this November's elections for positions covering all or part of the Fifteenth Congressional District of California, which I have the honor of representing. I look forward to working with them on behalf of the East Bay over the coming years.

State Senate, 10th District: Bob Wieckowski

State Assembly, 16th District: Rebecca Bauer-Kahan

State Assembly, 20th District: Bill Quirk

Alameda County Assessor: Phong La

Pleasanton Mayor: Jerry Thorne

Pleasanton City Council: Kathy Narum, Julie Testa

Dublin Mayor: David Gregory Haubert

Dublin City Council: Jean Josey, Shawn Kumagai

Livermore Mayor: John E. Marchand

Livermore City Council: Bob Woerner,

Trish Munro

Fremont City Council, District 1: Teresa

Keng

Fremont City Council, District 2: Rick

Jones

Fremont City Council, District 3: Jenny

Kassan

Fremont City Council, District 4: Yang

Shao

Hayward Mayor: Barbara Halliday

Hayward City Council: Aisha Wahab, Sara

Lamnin

San Leandro Mayor: Pauline Russo Cutter

San Leandro City Council, District 1:

Deborah Cox

Union City City Council: Emily Duncan,

Jamie Patino, Pat D. Gacoscos

San Ramon Mayor: Bill Clarkson

San Ramon City Council: David E. "Dave"

Hudson, Sabina Zafar

Danville Town Council: Karen G. Stepper,

Robert Storer

Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District

(AC Transit) Director, At-Large: Joel Young

AC Transit District Director, Ward 4: Mark Williams

AC Transit District Director, Ward 5: Diane Shaw

Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Director, District 4: Robert Raburn

BART Director, District 6: Liz Ames

Dublin-San Ramon Services District Directors: Ann Marie Johnson, Georgean Vonheeder-Leopold

East Bay Municipal Utility District, Ward 7: Frank Mellon

East Bay Regional Park District Director, Ward 5: Ayn Wieskamp

Eden Township Healthcare District Directors: Mariellen Faria, Roxann V. Lewis, Gordon Galvan

Chabot-Las Positas Community College District (CCD) Trustee, Area 2: Linda Granger

Chabot-Las Positas CCD Trustee, Area 3: Genevieve Randolph

Dublin Unified School District (USD) Governing Board Member, Area 2: Megan Rouse

Dublin USD Governing Board Member, Area 5: Dan Cherrier

Fremont USD Board Members: Dianne Jones, Larry Sweeney

Hayward USD Board Members: April Oquenda, Ken Rawdon

Livermore Valley Joint USD Board Members: Craig Bueno, Anne E. White, Emily Prusso

New Haven USD Governing Board Members: Linda Canlas, Sarabjit Kaur Cheema

TRIBUTE TO HERBERT "HERB" SPIEGEL

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to my good friend Herbert "Herb" Spiegel, who passed away in California on Sunday, December 2, 2018. Herb, a devoted family man, served his nation in World War II, and volunteered with many organizations in his community. He will be deeply missed.

Herb and his family escaped war-torn Germany in May of 1939, immigrating to the United States and settling in New York. He served in the U.S. Navy as a Seabee in Kodiak, Alaska during World War II, and was honorably discharged in 1946. He met Flora Hirsch on a New Year's weekend in 1950 and had a whirlwind courtship, proposing on their first date. After she said yes on the second date, they were married on May 23, 1951. They returned to Kodiak as he continued to work as a civilian electrician with the Navy.

The Spiegels would eventually relocate to Corona, California, where they would raise a family and become active members of the community. Herb founded Corona Industrial Electric, Inc. and has been an active member of the National Electrical Contractors Association. Herb retired in 1994, after receiving numerous awards and recognitions in the electrical contracting industry, and became actively immersed in the local community. Herb had remained active with the Corona Chamber of Commerce; Corona Host Lions; Corona Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; a member of the Masonic Lodge as a Master Mason, and Shriner; Navy League and an active member and founder of Congregation Beth Shalom of Corona. I have seen firsthand how Herb's tireless passion for his family, community service and giving back has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Corona. Additionally, Herb was a co-founder and creator of a holocaust education forum to share and preserve the story of his life and other holocaust survivors with young adults in Southern California.

Herb is survived by three sons: Sam, Bobby, and Marc; seven grandchildren: Tanya, Rebecca, Rachel, Isaac, Josh, Jacob and Aaron; great grandson RJ, and many nieces and nephews from around the globe. I extend my heartfelt condolences to the Spiegel family, his friends, and everyone fortunate enough to know Herb. Although Herb may be gone, the many contributions he made to his country, community and family will have a lasting impact.

IN RECOGNITION OF PETER OHTAKI

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Peter Ohtaki of Menlo Park who is departing the city council after eight years in service to its residents. In 2010, Peter Ohtaki filed to run

for the council. These were some of the worst years of the Great Recession, and the city's budget was in distress. It would have been easy for Peter to wait for a less challenging time to run, but instead he stepped up to serve his community. He came in first among six candidates for three seats. He was subsequently re-elected in 2014 and has served twice as Mayor.

From 2007 through 2010, Peter was also elected to the Menlo Park Fire Protection District board of directors and served as the President in 2010. Peter served on the Finance Committee and oversaw a balanced \$32 million budget at the district. With Peter's leadership and financial background, the district paid down 78 percent of its \$13 million pension obligation, saving the district millions in interest costs.

The recession of 2010 was a heavy blow to the city's finances, but since that time the recovery of the national economy has brought traffic to a standstill at commute hours. There are no easy or inexpensive choices regarding traffic in a city growing due to global innovation and the physical expansion of this globe's pre-eminent social media company, Facebook. As Peter Ohtaki noted, 80 percent of all traffic in the city neither begins nor ends within its borders.

To improve mobility, he supported an undercrossing at the Ravenswood/El Camino Real intersection so that residents could bypass the wait at Caltrain. He supported housing along the transit corridor and improvements to signs so that traffic would be less likely to cut through the Allied Arts and Belle Haven neighborhoods. He was a strong supporter of the Downtown Specific Plan that will allow the city's businesses and tax base to thrive. Residents may take a short drive downtown instead of going to surrounding communities for services.

During his terms in office, Mayor Ohtaki was also known for his respect for all during public meetings, his commitment to community safety and improved emergency response capacities, his devotion to balanced budgets and prudent reserves, and his willingness to work with the fire protection district to enhance protection for all residents.

Peter grew up in Menlo Park, attending both La Entrada Middle School and Woodside High School. He graduated with a B.A. in Economics, magna cum laude, from Harvard University and an MBA from Stanford University's Graduate School of Business. Peter and his wife Julie have three children, Robby, Nicolee and Trey, in Menlo Park public schools. Now that he is leaving public life, he may spend more time with his family. We deeply appreciate their dedication to public life and are grateful that they allowed Peter to serve despite the sacrifices in time that every family endures when someone serves in public office.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Menlo Park are highly educated, passionate about their beliefs, and deeply engaged in national and local public affairs. Peter is a stellar example of that. He may look back at where he started—with the budget in tatters and basic services in retreat—and relish that he helped guide Menlo Park through recovery and into prosperity. I wish him well in his next adventure during the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING EILEEN GREB FOR THE 2018 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eileen Greb of Butte, a recipient of the 2018 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for her service to her country and leadership in her community.

Mrs. Greb answered the call to serve in 1968 as a nurse in the United States Navy, where she cared for American servicemen and women at home and abroad. Mrs. Greb left active duty in 1984 but remained in the Individual Ready Reserve program until 1997, finishing her military career with the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

Mrs. Greb also answered the call to serve her community through numerous civic and veterans organizations in Butte. She serves as Chaplain for Silver Bow American Legion Post 1 and has been an officer in the local and state chapters of the Disabled American Veterans. Mrs. Greb has been a dedicated advocate for the Southwest Montana Veterans Home, which is slated for construction in 2019 after a long campaign to secure funding. On top of all this, she still finds time to assist in giving flu shots and working in her local YMCA's Medical Exercise Program.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Eileen Greb for her dedication and service.

HONORING ROBERT GOAD

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

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

Rob has been on our team from the very beginning and has worked in a variety of capacities, both in our Indiana and Washington, D.C. offices. As a senior member of my policy team, Rob was responsible for advising me on a variety of issues including education, financial services, transportation, and natural resources. He spearheaded the creation of the Congressional School Choice Caucus and developed landmark legislation expanding parental choice in education. Since leaving our office, Rob has gone on to serve as a Special Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, focusing on education.

On a personal note, Rob Goad is my friend. We share a love for the life lessons of sports and a commitment to family. I want to thank Rob for his patience, friendship and hard work in our office. I wish him continued success in all that God has planned for him and his family. No doubt, Rob's biggest impact on our state and Nation is yet to come. I will be cheering Rob on every step of the way.

CELEBRATING CATHY HURWIT  
FOR A LIFETIME OF PUBLIC  
SERVICE

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the most important people in my life for the last twenty years, my treasured friend and Chief of Staff, Cathy Hurwit. After two decades of working by my side, supporting, counseling, directing, and making all things happen, Cathy is retiring at the end of this year.

I think it says a lot about Cathy that she began her service to our county right out of college as a VISTA volunteer. Having never previously been west of the Hudson, she spent a formative year working on a migrant housing project in Davis and Weber Counties in Utah. Her project fixed up homes, developed a community health center, and worked with the children. That year set the stage for Cathy's never-ending commitment to do everything she could to make life better for every-day people.

Cathy Hurwit is well known on Capitol Hill as one of the most knowledgeable, savvy, brilliant, literate, helpful, visionary, hardworking, effective, strategic and relentless progressive leaders. She is the go-to person for staff and members inside the Congress as well as advocates, constituents and lobbyists outside. She is a skilled organizer who knows how to move a progressive agenda.

Cathy's history on the Hill began forty years ago. She served on the staff of Congressman

Toby Moffett (D-CT) as Energy Policy Director from 1976 to 1979. She then worked as advisor to the Subcommittee on Environment, Energy and Natural Resources of the House Government Operations Committee from 1979 to 1982, followed later by two years for Congressman (now Senator) ED MARKEY (D-MA) from 1987 to 1989 as his Legislative Director.

Cathy then left the Hill to become the Legislative Director for Citizen Action, a multi-issue coalition of progressive organizations from 1988 to 1997, overseeing campaigns that blocked President Reagan's efforts to deregulate natural gas—while passing legislation to protect homeowners from utility shutoffs, winning worker and community “right to know” about toxic emissions and promoted Patients’ Bill of Rights in Congress and around the country. Through that period, I became friends with Cathy through our mutual work with our Illinois affiliate.

The American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees, one of the great public employee unions in our country, hired Cathy as their Legislative Affairs Specialist from 1997 to 1999—until I was able to lure her back to the Hill as my Chief of Staff. By then she had vowed never again to work in Congress, but I am grateful that she came back to get me started, and even more grateful that she stayed!

Cathy has built and led incredible staffs in our office over the last twenty years. At the heart are my Deputy Chief of Staff, Kim Muzeroll, who is the glue that holds our D.C. office together, and Leslie Combs, my fabulous District Director who oversees a renowned constituent service operation. Along with Cathy, they make up a team of powerful women who have been in charge of our staff since my very first day in Congress.

Alumni of our office have served in the White House, as Chief of Staff to NANCY PELOSI and others, as Deputies to Cabinet Secretaries, and major leaders in not-for-profit and labor organizations. All of them benefited greatly from Cathy's mentoring and still consider themselves part of Team Schakowsky.

As I write this Extension for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, I still find it impossible to imagine future sessions without Cathy Hurwit right next to me, strategizing about how to move our progressive agenda forward. Her expertise in health care made it possible for me to write portions of the Affordable Care Act. Opportunities like that will hopefully come again soon. Cathy tells me that she will still be available to help, and I will be certain to test that. She remembers all the complicated details of so many issues and bills, the struggles and the victories, the names of all the players on every side of the issues. Her institutional memory is exhaustive. (There are some people who should hope that Cathy does not write a book!)

Even when she leaves, Cathy will be a force to be reckoned with. She has a lifelong commitment to social justice and to working for progressive change. I am sad that this phase is over knowing I have a lot more to learn from Cathy. My precious friend, as you leave the Rayburn Building, know that you have dramatically improved so many individual lives, including mine. And, more importantly, that you have made life better for millions of people who, through your work, now have access to health care and hope for a better future.

Cathy will be deeply missed in our office and throughout the Hill. I look forward to maintaining our partnership in the ongoing struggles for justice, equality and peace. From the bottom of my heart, I thank her for her service.

RECOGNIZING CHRIS GRUDZINSKI  
FOR THE 2018 MONTANA CON-  
GRESSIONAL VETERAN COM-  
MENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chris Grudzinski of Billings, a recipient of the 2018 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Grudzinski served as an infantryman in the United States Army from 1996 to 2009. During his second combat tour in Iraq, Mr. Grudzinski was wounded in action and awarded the Purple Heart.

After his military career, Mr. Grudzinski returned to Montana and co-founded the Montana Veteran's Meat Locker in 2017 with his wife, Kristin. The non-profit food pantry served more 7,500 pounds of meat to over 450 Montana veterans in its first year alone.

Mr. Grudzinski is attending Montana State University Billings with the goal of serving veterans and others as a licensed counselor, using outdoor adventures as a form of therapy. At MSUB, Mr. Grudzinski serves as a Peer Mentor and veterans representative volunteer, assisting veterans with educational and financial needs.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Chris Grudzinski for his dedication and passion to serve.

IN RECOGNITION OF CUB SCOUT  
FAMILY PACK 210

**HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cub Scout Family Pack 210, the first Sabbath Observant Kosher Family Cub Scout Pack in the nation.

Cub Scout Family Pack 210 was formed in conjunction with the Jewish War Veterans Post 210, the Grand Canyon Council and the National Jewish Committee on Scouting. The pack is open to Jewish boys and girls, and children of all faiths. Cubs will get to work on the values of good citizenship, character development and physical fitness.

I thank the leaders of Cub Scout Family Pack 210 for providing an inclusive space where children will experience enriching activities and grow into their best future selves. I look forward to the many future accomplishments of Cub Scout Family Pack 210 and the positive impact they will have on the community.

HONORING ASHLEY GUTWEIN

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a former member of my staff, Ashley Gutwein, for her work in my office and her service to our state.

Ashley served as Senior Counsel for more than a year in our Washington, D.C. office, handling my judiciary, financial services, national security, intelligence, foreign affairs, and armed services legislative portfolios. Before that, she was part of our office in Indiana during my first run for Congress. Ashley's dedication to our team has been outstanding, and it's been a pleasure getting to work with her over the years.

On a personal note, Ashley is a positive spirit, talented thinker and loyal friend, with a smile that lights up any room. I am grateful for her friendship and look forward to cheering Ashley on as her career, no doubt, continues to prosper.

HEZBOLLAH AND IRAN ARE  
PREPARING FOR WAR ON ISRAEL**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the terrorist group Hezbollah and their Iranian patrons are preparing for war against our Israeli allies. We know this because Israel discovered at least two tunnels crossing into their territory from Lebanon. These tunnels are not for smuggling or any other purpose. They are for the sole purpose of enabling terrorists to sneak into Israel for attacks. This is just more evidence that Hezbollah and Iran are committed to Israel's destruction. We, as Israel's strongest allies, must act to prevent this.

For more than two decades Hezbollah and Iran have been building an arsenal of weapons tailored specifically for eradicating the Jewish State. The attack tunnels recently unearthed are just the latest addition to this growing arsenal. But like many of Hezbollah's weapons, these tunnels are not to challenge Israel's military but to kill its civilians. Despite this fact, no Lebanese leaders have condemned these tunnels or called for their destruction. This is unacceptable.

One of the fundamental responsibilities of a state is to live at peace with its neighbors. Lebanon, however, allows terrorists to stockpile weapons and build attack tunnels in order to wage war on its southern neighbor. If the war that Hezbollah and Iran want comes, it will be the Lebanese people who suffer. During the last war, only twelve years ago, over a thousand Lebanese civilians were killed in the crossfire. Today, with Hezbollah building attack tunnels and weapon stockpiles under homes and civilian structures, it is inevitable that this will happen again.

It is time that the international community and Lebanese government act. For too long they have bullied our friends in Israel while terrorists like Hezbollah prepare to commit mass murder. The warning signs are clear.

These tunnels show that it is Hezbollah and Iran who are the aggressors.

All who stay silent now must accept that the blood will be on their hands when war erupts. And that's just the way it is.

UPON THE OCCASION OF THE RE-  
TIREMENT OF LARRY PATTER-  
SON, CITY MANAGER OF SAN  
MATEO**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Larry Patterson as he departs his position of City Manager after 18 years of stellar service in that role and as Public Works Director for the residents of San Mateo. His retirement has been planned for a while, but this does not make his departure any easier for those of us who've known this man for decades.

Larry has a reputation for taking on the toughest tasks of city governance. Thanks in great part to his efforts, the city's former race-track, Bay Meadows, has been transformed into a 21st century hub of high technology, housing and transportation-related businesses. Where ponies once trotted, Survey Monkeys now play. While many councils and staff contributed to this transformation, the roads, sewers, water, and rail station placement were heavily influenced by the expert vision of Larry Patterson.

San Mateo has several areas that flood. Larry was a champion of these residents through many years of heavy rains or drought. Every City Manager or Public Works Director must also be cognizant of the federal Clean Water Act and the responsibilities of the city under that law. In alliance with Foster City, Larry Patterson devoted countless hours to the development and construction of a \$1 billion + wastewater treatment plant improvement project that will soon allow residents to comply with federal law and to protect our environment for decades to come.

Some little boys really don't grow up, and Larry Patterson's interest in transportation—including trains and roads—illustrates that phenomenon wonderfully. Under Larry's stewardship, and in alliance with Caltrain, San Mateo replaced four rail bridges including one that had long given expensive haircuts to oversized trucks. During his tenure, the city began planning for the impacts of high speed rail and brought the grade separation project at 25th Avenue into construction. The intersection of Highway 92 and El Camino Real was a proverbial gleam in the eye of most San Mateo leadership, but Larry Patterson pushed forward over years and ultimately, in alliance with his highly capable staff, created an interchange that replaced a confusing cloverleaf with a safe intersection that efficiently serves the entire county.

Larry is not all about roads, bridges and rail. He's also a man of the people. San Mateo's Spanish-speaking residents increasingly have their voices heard in city hall because Larry began a program, in alliance with the San Mateo Adult School, to teach Spanish speakers in the city about city government. I should also note his service to the people of Half Moon Bay while on the City Council during the

1990's. It was an extraordinary time in that city's history. As a city manager Larry is, in effect, a "two-fer" for any city councilmember because he's walked in their shoes.

In the past year or so, Larry embarked upon a special assignment, in part at my request. He leads a countywide effort to create a flood and sea level rise resilience district. This district, once formed, will permit San Mateo County to play in the big leagues by securing Army Corps and other federal and state funding. San Mateo County is ground zero in California for sea level rise. Larry waded into this difficult discussion so that future generations in San Mateo County would not have to wade across incoming tides to get to their homes and places of work.

Mr. Speaker, San Mateo has been well served by Larry Patterson. He became City Manager at a time when the economy was accelerating, but he also worked as a senior manager during the darkest days of this nation's recession. He navigated public challenges brilliantly during his years with the city and has now earned a standing ovation for his good humor and great accomplishments across decades. He leaves behind a strong team and a grateful city council and community. He personifies the term public service. We wish Larry Patterson well in the years ahead. He is an outstanding leader, friend, and American.

HONORING EMILY DANIELS  
SPAULDING**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a former member of my staff, Emily Daniels Spaulding, for her work in my office and her service to our state.

Emily worked in my Indiana office for nearly a year, serving as one of my most senior staffers. Emily has an incredible work ethic and was a tremendous asset to our organization. She brought a wealth of experience and knowledge to our team and was someone I could rely on for on the ground political advice.

On a personal note, I admire Emily's commitment to her faith and family. Emily works very hard and delivers great results. But, you always have the sense that Emily's priorities are in the right order.

I want to thank Emily for her friendship and her hard work in our office. I wish her and Brian continued success in all that God has planned for her family.

POSTMASTER FRAZIER B. BAKER  
POST OFFICE**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7230, a bill I sponsored to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 226 West Main Street in Lake City, South Carolina, as the "Postmaster

Frazier B. Baker Post Office". This bill pays a tribute to a true American hero.

Frazier B. Baker was appointed Postmaster of Effingham, South Carolina in 1892 by President Benjamin Harrison, and in 1897, he was appointed Postmaster of Lake City, South Carolina by President William McKinley.

After Baker was appointed Postmaster of Lake City, local citizens in the predominantly white community subjected his family to months of hostility. The post office mysteriously burned down, and multiple gunshots were fired at him. Residents filed numerous complaints regarding his performance as postmaster, but federal postal administrators determined the allegations were unsubstantiated.

After relocating the post office to his family's home following the previous arson, a lynch mob set fire to it the morning of February 22, 1898. The mob aimed their guns at the home, killing Baker and his two-year-old daughter Julia and injuring his wife and three of his five surviving children. The attack sparked media attention, public uproar, and fundraising efforts on behalf of the Baker family.

Although the state of South Carolina failed to prosecute the mob; federal prosecutors and postal administrators took on the murder investigation. Thirteen men were arrested and charged with twenty-four criminal counts including "a conspiracy to injure and oppress Frazier B. Baker in the free exercise" of his civil rights. The trial began on April 10, 1899 in Charleston, South Carolina with an all-white jury which acquitted three and deadlocked on the remaining accused. The judge declared a mistrial and federal prosecutors did not reopen the case.

Justice was never served for Frazier B. Baker and his family. Designating the U.S. Post Office located at 226 West Main Street in Lake City, South Carolina in his honor is a fitting tribute to his memory.

I thank my colleagues in the South Carolina delegation for their unanimous support of this bill. I urge its passage by the House to honor this outstanding South Carolinian and great American.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF BILL SLATON

### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bill Slaton as he retires from his post as Board Member of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD). I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Slaton for his leadership and commitment to the residents of Ward 7 and all of California.

Mr. Slaton was elected to the SMUD Board in November 2002 and has been a diligent leader and representative for the many residents in Ward 7. As a testament to his dedication, Mr. Slaton has served as the Board president three times.

Mr. Slaton's career began after he graduated from the University of Texas with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. His career in the Sacramento region has been a testament to public service. For years, he served on the Policy Makers Council (PMC) of the American Public Power Association and acted as a strong advocate for customers of

more than the 2,000 public power agencies. Additionally, he has sat on the board of directors for two community banks where he was instrumental in structuring financing for information technology projects utilized by public agencies. In 2012, Mr. Slaton continued his work in advocacy for Californians when he was appointed by Governor Brown to the California Public Employees Retirement System Board of Administration.

Since he has lived in the Greater Sacramento Region, Mr. Slaton has been an inspiring leader for our faith-based community and all who live in the greater region. He served as the chairman of the board of KVIE-Channel 6 and has been a beloved member of Point West Rotary. As a leader in our robust faith community, Mr. Slaton acted as the president of the Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region and is a co-founder of the Jewish Community Foundation of the West.

Mr. Speaker, as family, friends and fellow SMUD Board Members gather to celebrate Mr. Slaton's inspiring career, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring his dedication to the Board and to our community.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN SEYBERT

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2018*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor John Seybert who is leaving the city council of Redwood community, he has served as a councilmember since 2009. He also served as Mayor from 2015 to 2017. His public service began in 2001 when he joined the Planning Commission. When the Great Recession arrived, John stepped up to the challenge as he joined the city council and was immediately confronted with difficult choices to make in the city's budget. His candidacy for council was a very important act of leadership during a time of great stress.

John is passionate about people, buildings, and the quality of life of city residents. He initially moved to Redwood City to lead the development of housing for his then-employer, and he never departed from that commitment to people and their basic needs. Under the leadership of John and his fellow councilmembers, they devised a way to encourage housing development in the downtown that has led to an increase of thousands in the city's core.

Where once the city's downtown was known locally for its bleak storefronts and failing attractions, today's downtown Redwood City is vibrant, bustling and attractive to families and to young people alike. From the major cinema to the history museum to the entry of major employers such as Box.com, John has played a decisive role in ensuring that Broadway moved from darkened storefronts into a blaze of prosperous businesses and nighttime lights and joyous visitors.

I want to note that it takes an especially dedicated local official to join the board of directors of a wastewater treatment entity. John joined with relish and brought his building experience to bear on the board of the Silicon Valley Clean Water Agency. During his service, major upgrades of the system were com-

menced or completed and the agency's finances remained sound despite the challenges of a recession and the ever-present threat of litigation.

John also served on the council's utilities committee, personnel committee, city-owned property committee, and the 101/Woodside Road Interchange Committee. He served on the Airport Land Use Committee, the Belmont/Redwood Shores School District Committee, and on the board of our local housing non-profit, HEART.

In his regular work, John is the facilities manager for our public transit agency, SamTrans. His professional and public work are only made possible by the support of his wife, Donna, as well as his daughters Jessi, Heather and Megan, and his granddaughter, Molly. John's life is full by any measure.

As we take the measure of departing city councilmember John Seybert, I want to note that he's been a thoughtful and respectful colleague and representative. It may be difficult to serve in public life during our modern era, but John has demonstrated that service may be performed in such a manner as to build the public's confidence in the institution of local government. The residents of Redwood City and the county owe John Seybert thanks for his example, and we wish him well as he removes himself from the dais to begin the next phase of his life, that of private citizen deeply dedicated to the public's best interests.

#### HONORING PRESIDENT GEORGE HERBERT WALKER BUSH

SPEECH OF

### HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of President George Herbert Walker Bush. A patriot and family man, the 41st President of the United States served his country honorably throughout his decades of public service. From the House of Representatives to the White House, he was a man of character who instilled strong conservative values in his leadership.

In 1942, just 6 months after Pearl Harbor, the loss of life and destruction motivated the future president to join the Navy on his 18th birthday. He would become one of the youngest aviators in our country's history; having completed his training, he was commissioned just three days before turning 19 years old. In 1944, he and his crew would partake in the Battle of the Philippine Sea, a crucial battle of WWII that disabled Japan's ability to conduct large-scale aircraft carrier operations. At just 19 years old, he risked his life and took a stand for democracy, a part of the greatest generation who heard and answered the call of duty.

Piloting his own airplane, a Grumman TBF Avenger, the young aviator and his crew took heavy fire near the Bonin Islands during a bombing run. His airplane was damaged and the engine caught fire as he attempted to maneuver away from the fight after successfully dropping his payload. Unfortunately, he was the only aviator to escape with his life of those shot down during that bombing raid. Awaiting rescue in the waters of the Pacific after his

plane went down, George H.W. Bush would emerge from this profound experience further motivated to give back to his country and would go on to serve in many capacities to our nation's benefit. He always questioned that day, and why he was the one to survive, and I quote

“Why had I been spared and what did God have in store for me? In my own view there's got to be some kind of destiny and I was being spared for something on Earth.”

It was during the Second World War where he met the love his life, Barbara Pierce, and they would have 6 beautiful children together. After the war George H.W. Bush enrolled in Yale, graduating early in an accelerated economics program while captain of the baseball team. He would go on to play in the first two Collegiate World Series as a first baseman. Upon graduation, the family relocated to West Texas where he began in the oil industry working his way up from an equipment salesman to president of his own company. Young and ambitious, Mr. Bush would begin his political career in the 1960s with the Harris County Republican party, and the rest is history.

George H.W. Bush was an inspiration and role model to so many wanting to join public service and make our country a better place, including myself. A member of the Texas State House at the time of his presidency, it

was a privilege to see a fellow Texan so passionate and determined to leave our country a better place than when he started. His presidential legacy began on January 20, 1989, when he addressed the country as our 41st President. In his inaugural address, he spoke about the tremendous power placed into the hands of the president. His first act was asking the country to join him in prayer where he emphasized the importance of wielding this incredible power bestowed upon him to help people, and he embodied these words throughout his tenure.

Reflecting upon the major accomplishments of President George H.W. Bush, one of his defining moments was signing the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) into law in 1990. The ADA enacted protections and vital reforms for those with physical and/or mental disabilities. His son, President George W. Bush, would later sign the ADA Amendments Act into law in 2008. It expanded the definition of disability and increased protections for many others.

Another notable event of George H.W. Bush's presidency was his leadership during the Gulf War. Iraq, led by Saddam Hussein, had invaded Kuwait in the summer of 1990 and occupied most of the country. The events quickly escalated while President Bush began to rally support from our allies across the

world, forming a unified front against Iraq's aggressive actions. In January of 1991, U.S. involvement in the Gulf War began with an extensive aerial bombardment, and proceeded into an intensive ground campaign that resulted in the liberation of Kuwait in late February of 1991. President Bush saw the incredible threat to freedom and democracy that Saddam Hussein presented, and knew that the military might of the United States was necessary to stifle the Iraqi army's advancements, and free Kuwait of potential tyranny.

While I could continue down the long list of his accomplishments and incalculable contributions, George H.W. Bush made a real difference at home and abroad. He understood the strength of community and wanted to use the power of the people to help each other and solve community issues as part of his Thousand Points of Lights Theme. Our nation is lucky to have had such a sensible man serve as our President. God Bless President George H.W. Bush and the positive impact he made for so many along the way.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring the lasting legacy and distinguished service of President George Herbert Walker Bush.