

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.