

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 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 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 REGU-
LATIONS RELATED TO AMPHIB-
IOUS 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