

In 1941, shortly after marrying her husband Señor Pedro “Pete” Cortez, the family opened Mi Tierra Café in San Antonio’s El Mercado. From what began as a small three-table venue, Mi Tierra Café grew into a well-established community hub.

After 75 years, Mi Tierra still stands as one of San Antonio’s cultural institutions. Today, La Familia Cortez Restaurants represent iconic local establishments throughout San Antonio and serves thousands per year.

At the age of 90, Señora Doña Cruz Cortez retired from La Familia Cortez Restaurants and left the booming family enterprise to her grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, the San Antonio community mourns the loss of this icon. Señora Doña Cruz Cortez embodied the American Dream and its impact on San Antonio better than most. She was truly remarkable.

I am proud to have known her and seen the immeasurable impact her warmth, commitment and dedication had on our community. Although we have lost a pillar in our community, her legacy will live on.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2019

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I was absent for the following vote on June 12, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll No. 250—On Motion to Adjourn.

IN RECOGNITION OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS RECIPIENT AARON JACOBSON

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2019

Mr. DUFFY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the heroism of WWII veteran, Aaron Jacobson, who through his actions was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Mr. Jacobson enlisted in the Army at the age of 32 and shipped off to fight against the evils of National Socialism in WWII. He landed on the beaches of Normandy and fought all the way through to the Battle of the Bulge, where he was awarded the second oak leaf cluster on his Purple Heart Award after his finger was severed by a German bullet.

Mr. Jacobson’s military records were destroyed in a series of fires. One took place in 1973 at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis. His was among the roughly 16–18 million records containing individual stories of American servicemen destroyed in that fire. The other fire tragically took his home and the life of his brother.

Aaron’s family and friends spent tireless hours combing through records, newspaper articles, websites and their recollection of his personal stories to re-construct the events of that day. Although we do not have the exact wording of his citation, I would like to tell you what happened on the day that Mr. Jacobson earned his Distinguished Service Cross.

On September 21, 1944, somewhere in the Parroy Forest of France, the 313th Infantry

Regiment, of the 79th Infantry Division, in which Private First Class Aaron Jacobson was serving, was mopping up a battlefield that had just been cleared. Suddenly, machine gun fire split the air and his men hit the ground. PFC Jacobson, without regard to his own life, low crawled towards a position from which he could flank the machine gun nest. As he approached the nest, he realized his rifle was full of mud and wouldn’t fire. Undeterred, he fixed his bayonet and stabbed the rear guard of the nest. Using the firearm captured from the German soldier he had just killed, he neutralized the remaining three Germans in the machine gun nest. PFC Aaron Jacobson’s heroic actions that day saved many American lives, and we as a nation owe him a great debt of gratitude.

HONOR FLIGHT OF OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2019

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize one Vietnam veteran, nine World War II veterans and thirteen Korean War veterans from Oregon who are visiting their memorials on the National Mall on Friday, June 14, 2019, through Honor Flight of Oregon. Every time I have the chance to meet one of these heroes, I am reminded of the poignant words of General Dwight D. Eisenhower. In a message to Allied troops just before D-Day, he said, “The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you.”

He was right then, of course, Madam Speaker. But over seventy years later, liberty-loving people everywhere continue to owe these heroes for their extraordinary service and their incredible stories of sacrifice and bravery on behalf of our country. That’s why it is my privilege to include in the RECORD their names today.

The veterans on this Honor Flight from Oregon are as follows: David Bagley, Marine Corps; Willis Bennett, Navy; Mount Blevins, Army; William Cadman, Marine Corps; William Collins, Navy; Marjorie Cook, Army; Lorin Culver, Army; Frederic DeGanna, Air Force; Walter Dye, Navy; Charles Elson, Army; Morris Fruitman, Navy; Ronald Gutekunst, Air Force; Harry Krogman, Air Force; Jack Lakey, Navy; Vernon Leshner, Navy; Harold Mehrtens, Air Force and Navy; Charles Nagy Jr., Navy; Henry Nussbaum, Navy; Walter Ridge, Navy; Bobby Ruth, Army; Jack Thompson, Army; Gerald Wellington, Air Force and Navy; and William Wilson, Army.

These twenty-three heroes join over 200,000 veterans who have been honored through the Honor Flight Network of volunteers nationwide since 2005.

I would also like to recognize the ten guardians traveling on this trip who have also served our country: Anginette Echols, Navy; Terry Haines, Navy; Daniel Johnson, Navy; Ronald Kohl, Air Force and Army; Mark Libante, Army; Peter Pringle, Navy; Walter Ridge Jr., Navy; Rachael Watters, Army; Kenneth Wilson, Navy; and Tanya Wilson, Navy.

Madam Speaker, at the height of the Civil War in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln wrote, “Honor to the Soldier, and Sailor every-

where, who bravely bears his country’s cause.” Each of us in this chamber and in this nation should be humbled by the courage of these brave veterans who put themselves in harm’s way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CHEF LEAH LANGE CHASE

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2019

Mr. RICHMOND. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Chef Leah Lange Chase, New Orleans’ matriarch of Creole cuisine, who fed civil rights leaders, musicians and presidents in a career spanning seven decades. Mrs. Chase passed away on Saturday, June 1, 2019 at the age of 96.

Mrs. Chase was born on January 6, 1923 in Madisonville, Louisiana. Her parents, Charles Lange and Hortensia Lange, raised 13 children. When she was 13 years old, Mrs. Chase moved to live with her aunt in New Orleans, so she could attend St. Mary’s Academy.

Upon graduation, Mrs. Chase took on several different jobs before she finally entered into the culinary industry as a French Quarter restaurant waitress. After meeting Edgar “Dooky” Chase Jr. in 1946 and eventually marrying him three months later, she transformed his family’s sandwich stand into a full-fledged restaurant known as “Dooky Chase” that served as the only top-tier dining option available to African Americans in New Orleans.

During the following decade, Dooky Chase became a key location for leaders of the Civil Rights movement to come together, organize, and discuss pressing social issues. ore broadly, countless black entertainers and icons dined at her restaurant including James Baldwin, Thurgood Marshall, Quincy Jones, and Ray Charles.

In August 2005, Hurricane Katrina ravaged her home and her restaurant with devastating flood waters. However, it was her steadfast determination and sheer will to rebuild the restaurant that made it possible to re-open its doors a mere two years later.

Mrs. Chase’s talent and contributions led to numerous accolades, including awards from the James Beard Foundation, the NAACP, and Southern Foodways Alliance. In her honor, the Southern Food and Beverage museum even named a permanent gallery after her.

Mrs. Chase served on several boards including the New Orleans Museum of Art, the Arts Council of New Orleans, the Louisiana Children’s Museum, the Urban League of Greater New Orleans, and the Greater New Orleans Foundation.

Mrs. Chase was known to most as the legendary Queen to Creole Cuisine, but to me, she was a close friend, mentor, and source of inspiration. Her passion and skill in culinary

arts served as a vessel not only to bring people together at a time when our nation faced racial strife and segregation, but also as a way to heal communities, champion the Civil Rights movement, and transcend institutional barriers to success.

Mrs. Chase's personable demeanor made her the matriarch of New Orleans. Her heart and soul touched the lives of so many who traveled from far and wide to experience the iconic cuisine of Dooky Chase Restaurant. I cherish the time spent with Mrs. Chase and offer my sincere condolences to the Chase family.

While she will be sorely missed, her imprint and legacy in New Orleans history and culture will remain present for a lifetime to come.

Mrs. Chase is survived by her son, Edgar Chase III; her two daughters, Leah Chase Kamata and Stella Chase Reese.; in addition to siblings, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Chef Leah Lange Chase.

HONORING THE OUTSTANDING EAGLES OF FREEDOM HIGH SCHOOL FOR THEIR ACADEMIC AND RESILIENT HIGH SCHOOL CAREERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements of the student award winners of Freedom High School at the Outstanding Eagles Award Ceremony. Each of these students are being honored for their resilient high school careers and the positive impact they have had on their classmates, teachers, and community.

These Outstanding Eagles have been selected for both their exceptional academic achievements as well as their determination to overcome hurdles throughout their academic careers. These students were able to take on adversity head on and show what resilient individuals they are. I'm sure the challenges they endured makes the journey and this accomplishment that much more satisfying, and this hard work will be vital in their future career paths as they enter higher education and the work field. But with students like this, I know we are in good hands. They are well prepared to face tomorrow's challenges, and I look forward to hearing of the many accomplishments they reach. They will be the future

leaders of our country and I am happy that these outstanding students were developed out of Prince William County. It is truly my honor, to include in the RECORD the following Outstanding Eagles of Freedom High School.

Aimen Zafar Khan
 Carlos Estelio Cifuentes
 Iqra Noor
 Bazgha Afaq Paracha
 Amya Cook
 Timothy Lee Bailey
 Abhishek Kattel
 Kiara Lynn Angeles Ehle
 Ralph Alix Saint-Franc
 Bashshar Osman
 Robert James Mayer
 Sharon Carly Anwa Acha
 Joshua Ioane Fuga
 Ivan Eduardo Torres
 Alexa Mileydi Zaldivar Comayagua
 Amara Dominique Smith Speights
 Merari Joseline Posas Mata
 Kari Lilibeth Tobar Zelaya
 Sophia Autumn Alder-Stephens
 Hannah Ngoc Huynh
 Isavel Diaz Castro
 Andy Adrian Reynosa-Gomez
 Abri Yannah Indera Syrina Graham
 Genesis Alexa Villanueva

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating these Outstanding Eagles for being honored by Freedom High School for their academic and resilient high school careers.