

activists, and community leaders together to discuss major civil rights issues within the state, generating a wider dialogue that is necessary to tackle these important matters. In addition, the gala serves as a great way to celebrate the outstanding progress and achievements that have already been made. The ACRL's work truly make a difference, and I am proud to be part of a community that is so dedicated to promoting equality and justice for all.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Arab American Civil Rights League. Their efforts to defend the constitutional rights of Arab-Americans and unite the country are much appreciated. We are grateful for the impact the ACRL has made—and continues to make—on our vibrant and diverse community.

COMMEMORATING THE
GROUNDBREAKING OF FORT
STREET BRIDGE PARK

HON. RASHIDA TLAI

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2019

Ms. TLAI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the groundbreaking of Fort Street Bridge Park in Detroit, Michigan.

Thanks to the hard work and advocacy of community members, today we break ground to build the Fort Street Bridge Park. This park is the culmination of the efforts of environmental activists, historians, and dedicated neighbors who all fought for a vision of a beautiful community green space for all to enjoy.

Fort Street Bridge Park will be a jewel of our community, a green oasis amongst the heavy industry that lines this section of the Rouge River. It will connect us to the water that has been the lifeblood of our region, a constant reminder of our past and our future. The Park will commemorate the 1932 Ford Hunger March, where brave workers stood up to Ford, demanded economic justice and fair working conditions, and the police responded with gunfire, killing four people and played a key role in ushering in the unionization of the auto industry.

This Park will not only be dedicated to conservation and education, but will also serve as a reminder of the fragility of our natural resources and public health if we do not do what's necessary to protect them. The Park will occupy a significant space in history and community, especially as it honors the late Congressman John Dingell and his legacy of environmental advocacy, which is so intertwined with the Rouge River.

Please join me in rising in tribute to Fort Street Bridge Park.

RECOGNIZING GAIL FISHER FOR
WINNING THE U.S. ARMY MATE-
RIEL COMMAND PARALEGAL OF
THE YEAR AWARD

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gail Fisher for winning the U.S.

Army Materiel Command (AMC) Paralegal of the Year Award. Ms. Fisher received the award at the AMC Legal Conference held in Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama in August.

Gail Fisher was born and raised in Rock Island, Illinois, and started working at the Rock Island Arsenal in August 1981. She began as a receptionist before working her way up to a secretary and then a paralegal, after attending Marycrest College in Davenport, Iowa. From 1999 to 2006, Ms. Fisher worked for the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive & Armaments Command (TACOM) in Rock Island, while pursuing a bachelor's degree in business administration from St. Ambrose University. After leaving TACOM, she moved to her office in the AMC Legal Center, where she has worked for the past 31 years. Her award is well warranted. Ms. Fisher is responsible for ensuring the assembly of agency reports and administrative records for federal court—confirming they are accurately marked, indexed and uploaded and transmitted in a timely manner. Her vast knowledge of law and wide range of experience allow her to process and track numerous cases at the same time. I commend Ms. Fisher for winning this prestigious award and thank her for her service to the Rock Island Arsenal.

It is because of community leaders such as Gail Fisher that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Gail Fisher for winning the prestigious AMC Paralegal of the Year Award.

HONORING DELL-CAM FARMS AS
THE 2019 SOUTHEAST DISTRICT
OF ARKANSAS FARM FAMILY OF
THE YEAR

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2019

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Goldmon family of Jefferson County, Arkansas who have been selected as Arkansas Farm Bureau's 2019 Farm Family of the Year for the Southeast District.

The Goldmon family owns and operates Dell-Cam Farms, which features 1,400 acres of corn, rice, and soybeans in the heart of Arkansas' Fourth District. Dewayne and Debra Goldmon, and their two children Camille and Dewayne Jr. have been actively engaged in production agriculture for over 22 years. After touring their farmland, I was impressed by the Goldmon family's dedication to agriculture, family values, and quality products.

In addition to being recognized as the Farm Family of the Year for the Southeast District, Dell-Cam Farms has served as a model for agricultural innovation for producers throughout the United States. The title of Farm Family of the Year serves to illustrate the Goldmon family's pursuit of effective and efficient farming technologies and practices.

I take this time to congratulate the Goldmons on this tremendous honor and thank them for their commitment to wise land stewardship.

CONGRATULATING LOVE THY
BABY ON TWENTY YEARS OF
SERVICE

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2019

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Love Thy Baby on twenty years of exemplary service to newborns and their families in North Texas.

Love Thy Baby is a Dallas-area, non-profit organization that provides support to families of newborns experiencing an economic or health crisis. By supplying blankets, quilts and clothing to families in need, Love Thy Baby helps to ensure a standard of comfort and warmth for infants in our communities. The organization also coordinates monthly deliveries to healthcare facilities such as Parkland Hospital in Dallas, John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth, and PediPlace Pediatric Clinics, among others.

On October 11, 1999, Patricia Clay-Jolly created the Dallas Chapter of Newborns in Need upon identifying a demand for warm blankets, clothing, and other essentials for newborn babies at Parkland Hospital. The organization would go on to provide tens of thousands of items to newborns and their families. In January 2015, Newborns in Need integrated into the organization, Love Thy Neighbor, ultimately changing its name to 'Love Thy Baby'.

Today, Love Thy Baby has 120 active volunteers and provides over 40,000 new items every year. Furthermore, Love Thy Baby donates over 10,000 gently used items to other area nonprofits including Hope 4 Refugees, Sharing Life, Nexus, Family Place, and White Rock Center of Hope.

Madam Speaker, Love Thy Baby's incredible contributions to the newborn children of North Texas has had an immeasurable impact on the lives of so many North Texas families. Such an accomplishment should not go without recognition and I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in thanking Love Thy Baby for their twenty years of service.

COMMEMORATION OF THE PRO-
MOTION OF FELIX GARCIA III TO
NATIONAL COMMANDER OF THE
MILITARY ORDER OF THE PUR-
PLE HEART

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2019

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the election of Felix Garcia III as National Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH).

Serving in the Marine Corps, Felix was deployed to Iraq in August and November 2004 as part of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Division. While in Fallujah and Al Karmah, he was injured during search and destroy missions in Operations Iraq Freedom II and Phantom Fury.

For his valiant service and sacrifice defending our great nation, Felix was awarded three

Purple Hearts and a Navy/Marine Commendation Medal with Combat V. He medically retired to Texas with his wife Christina and their three children.

In 2005, Felix joined MOPH Chapter 493 in Vista, California where he quickly rose through the ranks to become Senior Vice Commander. He went on to found MOPH Chapter 808 in Palm Coast, Florida, where he led its members in installing the Purple Heart Monument in Hero's Park.

Felix moved to Texas in 2012, where he joined his current MOPH chapter, Chapter 723, and served as its commander for three terms of office. He grew the chapter by recruiting younger award recipients who served in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Felix was recently elected to become the new National Commander of the MOPH. I had the honor of working with him on my Veterans' Advisory Board, where he played an integral role.

I am proud to see Felix ascend into his new position and I am confident the MOPH is in great hands. Congratulations to Felix and God bless all of our Purple Heart veterans.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAQUETTA PALMER FOR A DISTINGUISHED CAREER IN ACTIVISM, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND COMMUNITY HEALTH

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Paquetta Palmer on her retirement from Community Public Health and recognize her years of distinguished service. Her contributions to the community are worthy of commendation.

Paquetta Palmer's work at Washtenaw County's Community Mental Health has been paramount in addressing our community's mental health needs. As a Customer Resource Specialist, Palmer provided mental health services to people with mental illnesses, emotional disturbances, and developmental disabilities, giving them the tools necessary to work through their struggles. Palmer is known among her colleagues for her high degree of professionalism, kind demeanor, and passion for helping others.

Paquetta Palmer's commitment to serving Washtenaw County extends far beyond her professional work. Palmer has used the bulk of her free time working tirelessly with a variety of organizations to advance racial, economic, and social justice for all within the community. Palmer is a volunteer cook at Food Gatherers and participates in Neutral Zone, an organization dedicated to promoting the personal growth of our community's youth. Furthermore, Palmer has been an informal Health and Human Services advocate, a longtime community advocate for affordable housing in Washtenaw County, and even was a pioneer in comprehensive healthcare reform for low-income residents, fighting for the adoption of the Washtenaw County Health Plan long before the Affordable Care Act was even implemented. Palmer's steadfast dedication to supporting the entire community is truly remarkable.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Paquetta Palmer's retirement. Over her decades of service, Palmer has become a pillar of the Washtenaw County community, and it is my honor and privilege to recognize her dedication today. We are grateful for her outstanding work and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF WATER SUPPLY INFRASTRUCTURE AND REHABILITATION ACT

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2019

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Water Supply Infrastructure and Rehabilitation Act. This legislation will help address the need for the new storage, conveyance, and recycling projects necessary to increase our drought resilience and provide the water security required to meet the needs of our agricultural economy and our local communities.

As a farmer, former state Director of Agriculture, and now a Congressman representing one of the most flourishing agricultural regions in America, I fully understand how important it is that we reinvest in the water infrastructure our farms and communities were built upon—much of which is over a century old at this point. I have made it a priority to address these important issues for Central Washington, and for rural communities across the West, that have Bureau of Reclamation projects in their regions.

That is why I am introducing this legislation—to help local water managers access the funds they need to repair and rebuild aging facilities and ensure our existing surface storage facilities are operating as efficiently as possible.

The Water Supply Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Utilization Act addresses the Bureau of Reclamation's (BOR) maintenance backlog at water supply infrastructure projects. Since 1902, BOR has constructed dams, hydro-power plants, canals, and irrigation conveyances to provide for our water needs. Far too much of this infrastructure is in serious need of maintenance and repair. My legislation creates a streamlined process, so local water operators can initiate maintenance projects with extended repayment through a much more clearly-defined application and review process. Local users need this flexibility to access these resources—this bill will help them do just that.

Earlier this year, Central Washington crossed one of the most significant hurdles for water needs in our region when President Trump signed my legislation into law authorizing the next phase of the Yakima Project. It was a momentous occasion and a testament to the many collaborative efforts and stakeholders in the Yakima Valley. But as many of us know, authorization is only the key first step.

Next comes—what some would say is—the even more difficult part: securing the resources and the funding to actually implement those projects authorized. I have been working on the Yakima Project for much of my career, and this bill will create an easier, more-

streamlined process to access the funds for this desperately needed infrastructure in Central Washington.

This legislation also strengthens the "Safety of Dams" program to improve structural integrity of dams across the U.S. In Central Washington, we are no stranger to the benefits dams provide for irrigation districts and the agricultural industry. Like much of our nation's infrastructure, dams are aging and require regular maintenance and upkeep. The "Safety of Dams" program is important for ensuring all BOR dams across the country continue to operate safely and efficiently—from the Grand Coulee Dam down to the Sunnyside, Prosser, and Roza Diversion dams. The Yakima Project alone has five storage dam and reservoirs, including Bumping Lake, Clear Creek, Tieton, Cle Elum, Kachess, and Keechelus. Washington's 4th District truly is at the epicenter of need for ensuring the stability of BOR dam infrastructure, and this program is responsible for funding any updates or maintenance to these dams. However, BOR expects to reach their current statutory cap on the program in the next two years. My bill will increase the authorization of this program to meet BOR's projected funding needs for the future workload to ensure water users in regions like Central Washington can continue to enjoy the benefits of dams, large and small, that all make our way of life possible.

Finally, the legislation creates a pilot program to give more flexibility to reservoir operators. Communities across the West know the impacts of droughts all too well. This bill allows local operators to temporarily store water in dedicated flood control space during certain low-risk times of the year. By addressing the maintenance backlog at our water supply projects, strengthening the structural integrity of our water infrastructure, and providing flexibility for water storage to best equip our communities in times of drought, we can secure the resources required to address the current and future water needs for the Yakima Valley and for water needs across the West. I encourage all of my colleagues to support the Water Supply Infrastructure and Rehabilitation Act. I look forward to pushing for its passage here in the House and for its companion legislation, led by Senator MARTHA MCSALLY, in the United States Senate.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES E. INGRAM

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Charles E. Ingram, who is retiring after 28 years of public service as a Member of the Mathews County Board of Supervisors. Charles said his philosophy of public service is to always be fair, reasonable and impartial in dealings with everyone, focus on the community and the wonderful people of Mathews County.

Charles and his wife, Jean Flippin Ingram, have been married for 61 years and have raised their family in Mathews, Virginia. They have two daughters, Jeannie Elliott and Robin Jenkins, as well as two grandsons and one great-granddaughter.