

HONORING SERGEANT DAVID
CHAMBERS AS SOLDIER OF THE
YEAR

HON. ROGER WILLIAMS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. WILLIAMS. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this time to congratulate Sergeant David Chambers from Troop C, 1st Squadron, 3rd Calvary Regiment on being named 2019 Soldier of the Year in the Army's Best Warrior Competition.

The annual competition tests soldiers physically and mentally, as they compete in urban warfare simulations, fitness challenges, warrior tasks, written exams and formal board interviews.

Sergeant Chambers represented the Brave Rifles, Fort Hood, III Corps and United States Army Forces Command with the highest honor and integrity.

He also represents the very best of America, and we should all look to his example of patriotism, selflessness and dedication.

Fort Hood, or 'The Great Place,' is one of the largest military installations in the world, where soldiers like Sergeant Chambers represent the gold standard for the United States Army.

The men and women who are stationed there truly remind us of what it means to be an American.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the 25th District of Texas, I want to thank Sergeant Chambers for his service, and congratulate him on receiving this prestigious award.

May God bless the United States of America, and those who fight for our freedom.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JANE
DUNDAS SMITH

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and legacy of my constituent, Jane Dundas Smith—a dedicated educator who uplifted and inspired her students. Jane was an extraordinary leader both inside and outside the classroom who sought to better the lives of students in our communities and across the country.

After graduating from the University of California Davis, Jane began her career as a ninth-grade English teacher at Vallejo Unified School District. From there, she launched a more than 30-year career in education—eventually supporting educational programs for the largest county in the nation in the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools office.

Jane's passion for improving the lives of others through education extended beyond the classroom. As a consultant and education specialist, she worked with school districts across the country, designing programs to support underserved schools and communities.

Even after her retirement, Jane continued to shape the lives of students in our communities, serving on the Board of Education in

the Yucaipa-Calimesa School District and on the Nominating Committee for the California School Boards Education Association.

Jane's devotion to her students and education was unshakable. On behalf of California's 36th Congressional District, we join together with her loved ones to grieve her loss. Jane's valuable contributions will be felt for generations to come, and her memory will live on in the hearts of the countless lives she touched.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF ALTAMED HEALTH
SERVICES CORPORATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate AltaMed Health Services Corporation on its 50th anniversary. Over the past half-century, AltaMed has become a leader in delivering quality health care and empowering communities, and stands today as one of America's largest independent federally qualified health centers.

When AltaMed was founded in 1969 as the East LA Barrio Free Clinic, it relied entirely on grants and donations. The clinic provided critically needed care to predominantly Latino and underserved individuals and families who had little to no access to medical services.

Today, AltaMed is California's premier community health network, encompassing more than 50 service delivery sites throughout Los Angeles and Orange Counties, and staffed by a culturally and linguistically competent workforce of more than 3,000 employees. It provides care to more than 300,000 individuals and families in one million annual patient encounters. In addition, AltaMed has expanded beyond primary care to deliver a full continuum of care that includes pediatrics, dental care, women's health, senior services, youth services, and HIV/AIDS services. To this day, AltaMed is committed to providing quality care without exception and working to address health disparities in our communities.

In 1982, AltaMed began offering senior services by opening its first Adult Day Health Care Center in East Los Angeles, providing medical and rehabilitative care to older adults. In 1996, AltaMed made the transition to PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly), a world-class managed-care program that uses a unique team-based approach to provide frail older adults with medical, social, nutritional, and rehabilitation services. This program makes it possible for those who meet nursing home eligibility requirements to remain at home, enjoying the comfort and reassurance of familiar surroundings while receiving the care they need. AltaMed currently serves nearly 2,700 older adults at eight PACE locations in Los Angeles County.

With the passing of the Affordable Care Act in 2010, more than 20 million uninsured Americans gained access to comprehensive health coverage. AltaMed led widespread efforts through its service delivery sites to enroll and provide resources to newly eligible individuals, becoming Covered California's top certified enrollment entity for several years in a row, and earning a grant through the state's Navigator Program.

In addition to its role as a leading health care provider, AltaMed leads advocacy efforts to protect critical safety net programs and expand access to services in order to grow healthier communities. This is made possible through strong partnerships with elected officials and community organizations. AltaMed's advocacy includes championing California's historic Health for All Kids Act (SB 4) which granted an estimated 170,000 undocumented children access to health care coverage under Medi-Cal. AltaMed has also advocated to protect vital federal funding for community health centers.

With a commitment to social justice and the understanding that health centers play a significant role in helping to achieve health equity, AltaMed launched the AltaMed Institute for Health Equity in 2017. Through innovation, education, research, and community engagement, the institute works to inform and support the elimination of health disparities that disproportionately affect racial and ethnic minorities.

In 2018, AltaMed launched a first-of-its-kind effort to mobilize low-propensity voters to make their voices heard at the ballot box in the brand-new "My Vote, My Health" campaign. Drawing on best practices from Get Out The Vote research, and leveraging organization and community assets, AltaMed worked to inform, motivate, and mobilize patients and employees to protect access to their healthcare services through the power of their vote. AltaMed's effort resulted in increases in voter participation of as much as 432 percent in some of the hardest-to-reach voter precincts.

On November 8, 2019, AltaMed will commemorate its 50th anniversary. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating AltaMed on achieving this historic milestone as an exceptional health care leader, advancing quality care for Latino, multi-ethnic, and underserved communities in Los Angeles and Orange Counties.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present during roll call vote number 596 due to a meeting with constituents. I would like the record to reflect how I would have voted: on roll call vote number 596, I would have voted NO.

CONGRATULATING HENRY
DESROSIERS ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DANIEL MEUSER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and honor that I rise today to recognize the retirement of Henry Desrosiers after many years of service to our nation and community.

Mr. Desrosiers has been a leader in the Jim Thorpe community and has a long history of