

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CHRISTOPHER DIAZ

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 10, 2020*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Christopher Diaz for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Christopher Diaz is a student at Jefferson High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Christopher Diaz is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Christopher Diaz for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING SGM KEVIN MILLER

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 10, 2020*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, today I recognize SGM Kevin Miller, of the United States Army for his extraordinary dedication and service to our Nation. SGM Miller is retiring after over 30 outstanding years of service.

SGM Miller answered the call to serve our great Nation in March of 1990 as a Non-communications Interceptor and Analyst. SGM Miller has had an impressive career and has held every leadership position from team leader to Command Sergeant Major. His service took him all over the world, including assignments to Germany, Afghanistan, Iraq, and Baghdad. His service earned him numerous accolades, such as the Military Intelligence Corps' Knowlton Award, the National Military Intelligence Association's Academic Excellence Award, and the Bronze Star Medal.

On behalf of a grateful Nation, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service and sacrifice of SGM Miller. I hope he enjoys his well-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL NENG VANG

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 10, 2020*

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Lieutenant

Colonel Neng Vang, a true American hero and inspiration to many throughout North Carolina's Eighth Congressional District.

Lt.Col. Vang was born on January 5, 1942 in Phuv Luam, Xieng Khouang Province, Laos. After graduating from Nai Leoui Dong Heng Military Academy in 1963, he felt compelled to defend his country from the rising threat of communist forces.

Lt.Col. Vang proved to be instrumental in many American operations throughout the region and assisted the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in rescuing fallen American pilots, securing U.S. radar stations, and preventing Northern Vietnamese assets from reaching South Vietnam. He served alongside the United States at great personal risk until the fall of Laos on May 15, 1975.

Following the war, Lt.Col. Vang led a refugee camp in Thailand where he established post offices, implemented a system of law and justice, and provided valuable vocational training to fellow refugees.

Lt.Col. Vang fled with his family to the United States on December 24, 1982 and later settled in Troy, North Carolina. He became an American citizen on April 2, 1993 and dedicated the remainder of his life to the preservation of Hmong heritage and tradition.

I am honored to join our community today in remembering his remarkable life and service.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring the life and legacy of Lieutenant Colonel Neng Vang.

HONORING ANA POTTRATZ ACOSTA

**HON. ILHAN OMAR**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 10, 2020*

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ana Pottratz Acosta, a tireless attorney, advocate, and organizer, as she receives the International Institute of Minnesota's Olga Zoltai Award. I cannot imagine a better person to be recognized with this award.

Ms. Pottratz Acosta wears many hats in the Twin Cities—a clinical instructor at Mitchell-Hamline School of Law, vice chair of the regional American Immigration Lawyers Association chapter, a pro-bono mentor at the Advocates for Human rights, and more. She's also at the forefront of community response to major immigration policy changes, such as the Central American Minors refugee program and the recent Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act. Connecting these threads is a deep passion for immigration justice—a commitment that our openness and acceptance of immigrants and refugees is a non-negotiable principle of our country. Ms. Pottratz Acosta has approached this work not as a savior—but rather a partner in our common fight for liberation.

To me, Ms. Pottratz Acosta represents the best parts of America: someone who is using

all the tools at her disposal to fight for a world that is more filled with love, more connected, and more beautiful. When I see Ms. Pottratz Acosta, I also see in her face the faces of all the immigrants she has helped start a better life in our community. Because of her, I know that our future is brighter.

I thank Ms. Pottratz Acosta for her service to our community. It is an honor to get to work alongside her for justice for all of our neighbors.

BREANN GONZALES

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 10, 2020*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Breann Gonzales for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Breann Gonzales is a student at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Breann Gonzales is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Breann Gonzales for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO ESTHER BAUM—28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 10, 2020*

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Esther Baum of West Hollywood, California.

Esther was born and raised in Los Angeles and has called West Hollywood home for the past thirty years. Upon graduating from high school, Ms. Baum attended college and majored in accounting. With an abundance of talent and skill, Esther had a successful career spanning across decades. She worked for public accounting firms, and as an accountant for several businesses including a garment

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