

FULTON JACKSON

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 2020*

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

Fulton Jackson is a student at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Fulton Jackson 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 Fulton Jackson 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.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JAMES  
"JIM" McGRATH

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 2020*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in remembering the life of James "Jim" McGrath, a longtime District of Columbia resident and our city's leading activist for tenants' rights, on the occasion of his death on March 3, 2020.

Jim McGrath, born in Boston, Massachusetts on September 1, 1937, came to the District after serving in the U.S. Army. He studied literature at American University and received a master's degree in literature at Georgetown University. Jim worked full time as he pursued his education. He worked and volunteered for the American Cancer Society, he was a research assistant for a D.C. law firm and a paralegal for a telecommunications firm in D.C.

These experiences led him to the House of Representatives, where he worked for former Speaker of the House John W. McCormack of Massachusetts. Jim worked as a clerk for the House Committee on the Judiciary and later became a leading expert on federal pay issues as an employee of the Library of Congress.

As a D.C. resident who lived in Dupont Circle for 45 years, Jim became well acquainted with the challenges and abuse D.C. tenants face. He established the D.C. Tenants Advocacy Coalition (TENAC) in 1992 and became the lead advocate for tenants for rent control in the District. His advocacy for tenants' rights brought him before the D.C. Council, and his expertise led to legislation such as the creation of the Office of the Tenant Advocate (OTA), the confirmation of the Chief Tenant Advocate and the Tenants' Right To Organize Act. Jim's leadership will be especially missed today, when the high cost of housing is perhaps the most important issue facing our city.

With the passing of Jim McGrath this month, the District has lost a friend—and so have I. Jim McGrath devoted his life to the tenants of this city and became the face and soul of tenants' rights. Jim was the acknowledged leader of citizen efforts to protect tenants in this highest city.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring James "Jim" McGrath, my friend and a leader in our city, for his life of service. I extend my deepest condolences to Jim's family.

LT. COL. JAMES "JAY" VALLARIO

**HON. PAUL COOK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 2020*

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Colonel James "Jay" Vallario following nearly 25 years of dedicated service as a United States Marine. Jay was born in San Francisco, California in 1976. He is a graduate of Commodore Sloat Elementary School, Aptos Middle School, and Saint Ignatius College Preparatory. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Administration from the University of San Diego. He enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserves in September of 1995, and served as a Rifleman and a M1A1 tank crewman. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in April 1999, and then began active service.

A career AV-8B Harrier attack pilot, Jay completed two operational tours with Marine Attack Squadron 311 and one with Marine Attack Squadron 211. He served in all departments within a Marine Attack Squadron including assignments as the Aviation Safety Officer, Airframes Officer, Weapons and Tactics Instructor, Operations Officer, and Executive Officer. He completed two deployments with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, one deployment with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, and one deployment with the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit. While serving as the Air Combat Element Executive Officer and AV-8B Detachment Officer in Charge of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, Jay conducted combat sorties from the USS Makin Island in support of Operations Inherent Resolve and Enduring Freedom.

Jay's other duties included assignment to 3d Battalion, 4th Marines, with whom he served as a Forward Air Controller in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom: Marine Aviation Training Support Squadron Yuma Officer in Charge; and, assignment to the 55th Fighter Squadron, with whom he served as a Marine Exchange F-16CJ Pilot. During his United States Air Force exchange tour Jay deployed to Aviano Air Base, Italy, and conducted combat sorties into Libya in support of Operation Unified Protector. From April 2015 to February 2016, Jay served on the staff of the Deputy Commandant of the Marine Corps for Aviation. Jay commanded the AV-8B Fleet Replacement Squadron, VMAT-203, from June 2016 to January 2018. While in command, he was responsible for initial and refresher training of Marine Corps Harrier attack pilots.

Upon relinquishing command, Jay assumed the billet of Marine Aircraft Group 14 Executive Officer, where he served until July 2018. From July 2018, until his retirement on 1 April

2020, Jay was assigned to the Marine Corps Office of Legislative Affairs where he served as a liaison to Navy Office of Legislative Affairs, and managed the Navy's Expeditionary Warfare, Air Warfare, Military Sealift, and F-35 acquisition portfolios.

Upon his retirement from active service in the United States Marine Corps, Jay will begin work as a Professional Staff Member on the House Armed Services Committee, where he will manage the readiness portfolios of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force.

Jay is married to Adrianna, from Denton, Texas. They have two children—Maia (6), and Evan (4)—and reside in Alexandria, Virginia.

I ask the House to join me in congratulating Lieutenant Colonel Vallario and his family for his service to our Nation.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. WILLIAM R. TIMMONS, IV**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 2020*

Mr. TIMMONS. Madam Speaker, I missed votes on Thursday, March 5th, due to full-time military duties with the South Carolina Air National Guard. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 87; YEA on Roll Call No. 88; YEA on Roll Call No. 89; and NAY on Roll Call No. 90.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE  
CREATIVE IMAGE BEAUTY SALON

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 2020*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Creative Image Beauty Salon in Dearborn. Its years of dedicated service to our community are worthy of commendation.

Creative Image Beauty Salon has served Dearborn residents since 1997. The salon offers a variety of services designed to meet the individual needs of each customer, and they provide exceptional service thanks to the staffs many years of experience. The owner of Creative Image Beauty Salon, Haitham Mehanna, is a dedicated business owner with a commitment to satisfying his customers and enriching the Dearborn community. Mehanna is recognized among his family, peers, and clients as an honest and generous man who is eager to always lend a helping hand to local causes, working tirelessly to improve the community. Thanks to his leadership and the highclass work of his staff, Creative Image Beauty Salon has become an integral part of Dearborn, as it has united the city and consistently provides quality services to all its clients.

Today, we celebrate Creative Image Beauty Salon for its continued commitment to the Dearborn community. The salon's dedication to caring for every person who walks through the door is truly remarkable and serves a model that other businesses should endeavor to match. Each staff member goes above and beyond, striving to provide the best services possible. Without a doubt, the Creative Image