

town of Hillsborough, California, for more than 17 years in various roles. To all of those roles, he applied exemplary commitment and passion, always resulting in improvements for the town and its residents. If there was a job Hillsborough needed to get done, John was the man to ask.

John started his public service in February of 2003 as Building Inspector I, working closely with homeowners and contractors to ensure safety and adherence to building codes. In 2004, he was promoted to Building Inspector II and in 2006 to Chief Building Official. In that role, John demonstrated remarkable leadership and mentorship passing on his passion for service and his superb knowledge of the town. He was instrumental in streamlining the permitting process and improving the image of the building division. He developed a model Green Building Ordinance and was the master architect of a customer relations management system that made communication and access to information easy and effective.

Frequently serving in interim positions, John always bridged transitions and helped out where he was needed. He was the Acting Public Works Director, Interim Assistant City Manager and Acting City Manager. No matter his position, he approached it with enthusiasm and injected a sense of collaboration and team spirit.

John came to public service from the building trades. He graduated from Skyline College with an Associate's Degree in Building Technology and began his career as a carpenter, plumber and electrician in 1977. He worked in residential and commercial construction until 1995, when the City of South San Francisco hired him to coordinate the aircraft noise insulation program. I speak from personal experience in my Congressional Office when I say that solving the problem of airplane noise and its detrimental impact on human health is not an easy task. John fully immersed himself in the issue and subsequently served as a Combination Building Inspector for South San Francisco's Fire/Economic and Community Development Building Division.

It is obvious from his work history that John is a hands-on guy and knows how to turn ideas into tangible objects. In his free time, he volunteers his talent and time to Habitat for Humanity, Rebuilding Together Peninsula and, very fortunate for Hillsborough, the Beautification Foundation. He has been instrumental in building and maintaining more than 145 parks, parklets and medians, including Harvest Garden, Town Hall campus, the Veterans Memorial, the police station, two fire stations and five school sites. He is also an outstanding event organizer working behind the scenes to make everything go smoothly. He has worked on signature events such as Geri Lane Halloween, Memorial Day, Veteran's Day, Light Up the Town and the Centennial Celebration.

Other areas in which John has extensive knowledge are emergency preparedness, safety and technology. That has made him an invaluable asset to the town and prepared town staff for any emergency. In his capacity as Assistant City Manager, he served as the town's risk manager handling insurance and claims with the IJPA-PLAN and providing safety programs. He managed the town's information technology program by finalizing the IT Strategic Plan, implementing the council chamber upgrade, security and hardware improvements, updating the website and improv-

ing connectivity in different departments. John also served on regional committees including the Airport Noise Committee and SAMCAT, and he supported sustainability projects related to solar and lighting and community concerns such as pesticides, leaf blowers, right of way issues and park use regulations.

In his well-deserved retirement, John is looking forward to enjoying more time with his wife Melissa and their daughters Lauren and Kailey. We thank them for sharing him with the residents of Hillsborough, who have greatly benefited from his expertise, dedication and hard work.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing John Patrick Mullins, an outstanding public servant who I have admired and whose contributions will continue to shine and reflect the welcoming and innovative character of our town. I am confident we will see his familiar face at many parades, picnic and parties for years to come.

HONORING FIREFIGHTER JUSTIN WHITE AS A RECIPIENT OF THE VALOR AWARD

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize City of Fayetteville Firefighter Justin White as a recipient of the Public Safety Valor Award, presented annually by the Greater Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Award is a prestigious honor presented to men and women of the Fayetteville region who perform acts of heroism under extreme risk. An outstanding member of the Fayetteville Fire Department, Firefighter White went beyond his call of duty on March 22, 2020.

After responding to a motor vehicle accident alongside Lieutenant Joe Bumgarner and Captain Jason Hulon, Firefighter White heroically rescued a victim from a burning vehicle that was pinned to a tree. Remarkably, this feat was accomplished within two minutes and fifteen seconds of arriving on the scene.

While Captain Hulon and Firefighter White got dressed in PPE, Lieutenant Bumgarner attempted to free the victim wearing only his turnout coat. When his superiors were pushed back by the intensity of the flames, Firefighter White saw an opening and pulled the victim to safety just as the vehicle's dash was encased in fire. He sought medical attention for the victim before successfully containing the remaining blaze.

Firefighter White's quick actions, bravery, and dedication to service is a credit to him, his family, and the entire Fayetteville Fire Department. I know I speak for everyone in our community when I say we are truly grateful for his unwavering service and cannot thank him enough.

Firefighter White is deserving of this honor, and I would like to extend my most sincere appreciation and wish him success as he continues to protect our communities.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in celebrating City of Fayetteville Firefighter Justin White for receiving the Public Safety Valor Award.

HONORING MISSY MELLOTT

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Melissa Mellott for receiving the Encompass Health Rehab Patient Achievement Award.

After her tumor removal surgery and subsequent complications, Melissa entered rehab at Encompass. At the time, she exhibited weakness in her left side, double vision, pain, and decreased strength and coordination. As a result of these symptoms, she often required assistance to do daily tasks and needed to wear a neck brace.

Thankfully, Missy worked hard in rehab and experienced incredible progress. As a testament to her perseverance and hard work, Missy was able to walk out of the facility unassisted. Now at home, she has resumed many of the activities she enjoyed prior to the surgery, including gardening and walking.

Missy's recovery journey is a shining example of hope and hard work. On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Missy Mellott on her remarkable work towards recovery, and I wish her every continued success.

CONDEMNING UNWANTED, UNNECESSARY MEDICAL PROCEDURES ON INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT THEIR FULL, INFORMED CONSENT

SPEECH OF

HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 2020

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include these transcriptions of letters I received from my visit to the Irwin ICE Detention Center for the RECORD. The first letter was signed by 24 detained women. The second one is from another detainee. I am also including text from a drawing I received during the visit that is asking for compassion and mercy.

LETTER NO. 1 SIGNED BY 24 WOMEN FROM IRWIN COUNTY DETENTION CENTER—SPANISH TRANSCRIPT

¡Hola! ¿Como están? Nosotros estamos mal. Si estamos mal, porque nadie en estas condiciones puede decir que está bien. Yo quería decirles un bonito discurso. Pero le voy a hablar con la verdad y con el corazón. ¿Por qué habéis tardado tanto en venir? Si desde hace tiempo pedíamos a gritos "AUXILIO". Ustedes no saben todo lo que hemos sufrido. Alguien debe de pararlo. Alguien debe de responder por esto. Si nos tienen encerradas, nos han separado de nuestras familias, los jueces nos han negado todo. ¿Por qué nos castigan más? Mandándonos con un "loco", despiadado que mutila cuerpos. Y nos deportan para que nadie diga NADA y no se portan para que nadie denuncie NADA. Alguien debe de parar esto. Alguien debería de responder por esto. Y que no venga ICE y quiera limpiarse las manos si son ellos quienes lo "autorizan".

Ustedes no saben el trauma psicológico y la indignación que sentimos al ver tantas mujeres "operadas". Las hemos visto llorar