

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MSGT. LARRY A.  
LEDFORD

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Master Sergeant (MSGT.) Larry A. Ledford of Kingsport, Tennessee for his military service during the Vietnam era.

MSGt. Ledford joined our U.S. Air Force almost immediately after he graduated from high school in 1968. He was first stationed at Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) in Guam. Later, he was sent to HQ Intelligence where he was tasked with providing administrative support to his fellow service members who were responsible for interpreting bomb assessment targets in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos while they were also identifying additional targets. Notably, he took part in both Bullet Shot and Linebacker II Operations. Some of his additional station assignments were Bergstrom Air Force Base (AFB) in Texas, Air Force HQ Southern Europe, and Ramstein Air Base in Germany.

His final assignment was the Air Force Flight Test Center at Edwards Air Force Base in California. Upon active-duty retirement, he served another 18 years with our Department of Defense (DoD).

A family man through and through, he wishes to personally thank and recognize his devoted wife, Mrs. Jane Ledford, as they celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary later this year. Like MSGt. Ledford, Mrs. Ledford faithfully served DoD with a career spanning nearly 40 years of civil service. He also proudly mentions his two very accomplished sons Steven and Bryan, who followed in their footsteps in service to DoD as government contractors.

Please join me in honoring MSGt. Ledford for his long career of service to our Nation in both military and civilian sectors.

HONORING ROBERT BRICK ON RECEIVING THE 2022 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD ON BEHALF OF TRAVERSE CONNECT

**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Robert Brick for receiving the 2022 Distinguished Service Award on behalf of Traverse Connect.

Bob is a tenured real estate broker with 50 years of experience, as well as the owner of RE/MAX Bayshore Properties, a nationally recognized real estate firm in the greater Traverse City area. Since starting his career in 1973, Bob has continually displayed professionalism and a desire to help his local community through his business.

Upon graduating from St. John's University of Minnesota, Bob began his time in real estate and cemented himself as one of the Nation's top brokers. Working with his children, Bob has facilitated positive change throughout the area by partnering with organizations such as Children's Miracle Network Hospitals and by creating his own relief fund for those impacted or displaced by natural disasters.

Bob has continually strived to be the best community member he can be and has used his platform to extend a helping hand to his fellow residents. His commitment to the people of Traverse City is undeniable and his work will have a lasting impact on the area's most vulnerable residents for years to come. Traverse City, the surrounding communities, and all of Michigan's First District owe Bob our support and gratitude as he accepts this well-deserved award. His dedication to the betterment of others' lives highlights the character of both Bob and his family.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Robert Brick for his steadfast service to the Traverse City region. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I extend my gratitude to Bob and his family and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING THE EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend the East Bay Municipal Utility District, upon celebrating its 100th anniversary serving the East Bay community. This outstanding achievement is a testament to the critical work the District has accomplished to ensure the health and prosperity of the East Bay environment and community.

Originally founded in 1923, under the State of California Municipal Utility District Act, the East Bay Municipal Utility District has provided access to water for generations of Californians. Today, the company continues its commitment to preserving the environment and faithfully serving the people of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

The East Bay Municipal Utility District plays a vital role in building, operating, and maintaining the infrastructure that protects and strengthens California's water supply. Through the East Bay Municipal Utility District's critical leadership in developing the Freport Regional Water Project, it is helping meet the daily water needs of both Sacramento and the East Bay.

Since its founding, the East Bay Municipal Utility District has worked tirelessly as a trailblazer in environmental stewardship, consistently leading efforts to promote environmental sustainability. The East Bay Municipal Utility District was the first wastewater agency in

North America to produce more renewable energy than it uses, by capturing methane gas from the water treatment process. This groundbreaking development served as a national model of renewable energy, inspiring other public and private agencies across the country.

On behalf of the constituents of California's Eighth Congressional District, I would like to congratulate the East Bay Municipal Utility District upon its 100th anniversary and extend my sincere gratitude for its generations of service to the East Bay community.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT  
MICHAEL KILGORE

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Staff Sergeant Michael Dwayne Kilgore of Johnson City, Tennessee who served during the Vietnam War era from March 1968 to February 1970.

During Vietnam, he served in a Recon Platoon which was attached to Echo Company 2nd Battalion, 8th Air Cavalry, 1st Air Cavalry Division. As part of the Recon Platoon, he surveyed the area of operation ahead of the main force, however, he was usually the first person to receive contact from the enemy.

During his service, SSGT. Kilgore was awarded two Bronze Stars, 2 Purple Hearts, 3 Air Medals, and the Army Commendation Medal. He also was stationed in numerous locations around the East Coast and graduated from the War College at Fort Benning, Georgia.

ENCOURAGING THE EXPANSION AND STRENGTHENING OF THE ABRAHAM ACCORDS TO URGE OTHER NATIONS TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL AND ENSURE THAT EXISTING AGREEMENTS REAP TANGIBLE SECURITY AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS FOR THE CITIZENS OF THOSE COUNTRIES AND ALL PEOPLES IN THE REGION

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 25, 2023*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H. Res. 311.

All people deserve safety, justice, equality, human rights, and the right to self-determination. No child anywhere should go to bed at night fearing ongoing violence.

Israel is an important and strategic ally in the Middle East region, and our national security interests are intertwined. The United

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

States provides \$3.8 billion in security assistance to Israel's government each year, and I support the use of these funds for security purposes such as Iron Dome. These dollars should be used to keep the Israeli people safe, but unfortunately the American people do not know how billions of this annual security assistance is being spent. That is why I have worked for years to account for the use of these funds.

Not \$1 of U.S. aid should be used to commit human rights violations, demolish families' homes, or permanently annex Palestinian lands. Peace can only be achieved when everyone's human rights are respected, and Congress has a responsibility to not ignore the well-documented mistreatment of Palestinian children and families living under Israeli military occupation.

The resolution also fails to mention a two-state solution, for the first time ever. I echo the concerns of many of my House colleagues about this missing commitment for all parties to work together toward a peaceful future.

I join Jewish Voice for Peace, the Institute for Middle East Understanding, and many other civil society groups in opposition to this poorly written resolution.

There is a path to peace and security in the Middle East, and it requires leading with our U.S. values of democracy and equal justice for all.

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RECOGNIZING PASCO COUNTY  
FIRE CHIEF SCOTT CASSIN

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fire Chief of Pasco County Fire Rescue, Scott Cassin. Chief Cassin has served Pasco County since 2010 and became Chief on August 26, 2012. For nearly 37 years, Chief Cassin has served in fire service, serving communities in Indiana and Florida. He has worked nearly every job available in the service and has exemplified his commitment and passion to all he has interacted with.

Overseeing Pasco County Fire Rescue which responds to 80,000 calls annually and operates a fleet of 175+ vehicles with 700+ personnel, Chief Cassin's strong leadership has allowed the department to innovate and continually push the limits of modern fire service.

I thank Chief Cassin for his years of service to our community. It is my hope that he enjoys the retirement he has earned.

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HONORING NICOLE BRADDOCK

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nicole Braddock, whom I have named the 2023 Climate Crisis Champion for Solano County because of the important work she has done to promote conservation and address the impacts of climate change on California's 4th Congressional District.

Nicole Braddock was born in Cedarville, California. She obtained a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of California, Davis in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology, and she holds an MBA from Capella University. In addition to these impressive educational achievements, Ms. Braddock has a strong commitment to bringing communities together and building common ground in conversations around climate change.

Through her role as the Executive Director of Solano Land Trust, Ms. Braddock has championed the protection of more than 8,000 acres of working farms and natural areas as well as the restoration of miles of creeks and streams. Solano Land Trust goes beyond land conservation to ensure the establishment of strong relationships between community members and the land.

Ms. Braddock has also advocated for the development of accessible trails and picnic areas to promote public resources available to all members of our community. Ms. Braddock's strong desire to give back to the community is exemplified through her development of partnerships, which allow for every individual in Solano County to benefit from protected natural areas. Additionally, Ms. Braddock supports land conservation efforts through her work on the National Land Trust Alliance Leadership Council. The Land Trust Alliance works with local land trusts to expand land conservation locally and nationally.

Outside of her participation with the Land Trust, Ms. Braddock volunteers with numerous nonprofit organizations and provides pro bono coaching to local leaders working in land conservation. Ms. Braddock also serves on the board of the Solano Economic Development Corporation, an organization dedicated to growing Solano County's economy through the creation of new jobs and competition among businesses.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that Nicole Braddock is a leader dedicated to land conservation and environmental advocacy. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as Solano County's 2023 Climate Crisis Champion.

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HONORING TECHNICAL SERGEANT  
DENNIS GONZALEZ-FURMAN  
UPON RECEIVING THE DISTINGUISHED  
FLYING CROSS

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Technical Sergeant Dennis Gonzalez-Furman of the 437th Air Mobility Wing for earning the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service, dedication, and sacrifice during Operation Allies Refuge. He exemplifies the best of America, and his tireless efforts guarantee the safety of all those who call America home.

Last year, Technical Sergeant Dennis Gonzalez-Furman joined the servicemembers of the 349th Air Mobility Wing in meeting a challenge of colossal scale, when they helped execute the drawdown of forces from Afghanistan. Technical Sergeant Dennis Gonzalez-Furman and the 349th Air Mobility Wing played a critical role in the largest noncombatant evacuation operation in history, Operation

Allies Refuge, ultimately saving over 124,000 lives. They directly supported the evacuation of nearly 13,000 Afghans while simultaneously managing the security and operations at Hamid Karzai International Airport. I have listened to countless stories from this group of brave men and women that exemplify the character, leadership, and bravery that is cultivated in the United States Air Force.

Service records only scratch the surface of the courageous actions performed during Operation Allies Refuge. These valiant servicemembers, like Technical Sergeant Dennis Gonzalez-Furman, put their hearts and lives on the line to save so many and epitomize the values of courage and patriotism.

On behalf of a grateful country and all the constituents of California's Eighth Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Technical Sergeant Dennis Gonzalez-Furman of the 437th Air Mobility Wing for receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross and extend my sincere gratitude for his sacrifice and contributions to the defense of this great country.

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HONORING SERGEANT HAROLD  
WAYNE LEONARD

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Sergeant Harold Wayne Leonard of Bluff City, Tennessee for his heroic service. Sgt. Leonard saw multiple deployments, including serving in Germany during the Berlin Crisis, in South Korea, at Ft. Bragg during the Cuban Missile Crisis, and Vietnam.

Assigned to the 8th Artillery 25th Infantry Division, Sgt. Leonard and his comrades fought 60 continuous days and nights in Cu Chi where North Vietnamese rigged explosives, booby traps, and punji sticks. In grueling conditions, he served bravely in what his fellow soldiers coined as, "Hell's Half Acre". Along with his division, his service in the Battle of Cu Chi proved invaluable to the discovery of the Viet Cong's district headquarters with over half a million military and intelligence documents.

He and his division were awarded the second highest unit decoration bestowed upon a U.S. Army unit, the Valorous Unit Award for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy. A family man, he insists all recognition and commendations for his service are given to Mrs. Leonard, his devoted wife of 62 years, for her many sacrifices in providing him great love and care.

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HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF  
FIRST SERGEANT RYAN DUBUQUE

**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize First Sergeant Ryan Dubuque on his retirement from the U.S. Army after 21 years of service to our Nation. After more than two decades of military service, including working to recruit the next generation

of Servicemen at the U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Ryan has become an indispensable part of the state of Michigan.

Receiving his education from Columbia College and Liberty University, 1SG Dubuque's service has made him a respected leader among Michiganders. In addition to his time with Army Recruiting, 1SG Dubuque also served multiple tours in Iraq. Choosing to defend our Nation's values both at home and abroad, 1SG Dubuque has continually shown his desire to lead those around him. His years of service in our Nation's military, both in recruitment and in deployment roles, has had a lasting effect on the community and his absence from our Armed Services will be felt across the state of Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize First Sergeant Ryan Dubuque for his 21 years of service in the U.S. Army. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I extend my gratitude to 1SG Dubuque and wish him and his family the best in their future endeavors.

#### HONORING DENISE RUSHING

#### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Denise Rushing, whom I have named the 2023 Climate Crisis Champion for Lake County because of the important work she has done to address the threat and impacts of climate change on California's 4th Congressional District.

Ms. Rushing has prioritized energy, environmental, and climate issues throughout her career. Her degree in Environmental Engineering from Stanford University informed the environmental work she has done with private firms and business start-ups. Her executive experience includes her flagship work as Director of Energy Efficiency for PG&E, where she pushed the market to adopt networked meter data for more efficient energy readings.

As a public servant, Ms. Rushing implemented her ecologically inspired approach to community and cultural transformation with incredible success. Over her two terms representing the Lake County's Third District on the Board of Supervisors, she championed two of the largest public solar energy installations in the western United States. Ms. Rushing also initiated the formation of key wildfire safety plans, new wildlife preservation sites, and two county-wide working groups on Energy Sustainability and Food Security. Her leadership has paved the way for Lake County to be awarded two state-wide honors for renewable energy and cultural projects: the Green California Energy Innovator of the Year Award and the Green California Leadership Culture Award.

Since her tenure in public office, Ms. Rushing has continued to find ways to dedicate herself to environmental advocacy in our community. She served multiple terms on the Sierra Club Lake Group Executive Committee, most recently as the committee chair from 2018 to 2021. Ms. Rushing is also the co-founder of Rockhaven Ecozoic Center, an

eco-spiritual nonprofit. Additionally, she volunteers as part of the Pachamama Alliance's Awakening the Dreamer and Climate Advocacy programs. She even offers her expertise to others in permaculture design certificate programs and regenerative land management courses for educators. She also provides free renewable energy education curriculum for the residents of Lake County.

Mr. Speaker, Denise Rushing is a dedicated leader in energy and environmental advocacy. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as Lake County's 2023 Climate Crisis Champion.

#### CELEBRATING THE VILLAGE OF HINSDALE ON ITS SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Village of Hinsdale, Illinois. A place that has been a pillar of Cook and DuPage counties for nearly two centuries.

Hinsdaleans have long played an important role in shaping the community. It was thanks to Hinsdaleans that the village undertook numerous civic improvements that were ahead of their time. In the 1890s civic projects such as a water pumping station, a sewage system, electric street lights, street paving, and sidewalks contributed to the village's appeal.

I am honored to represent the Village of Hinsdale and thousands of Hinsdaleans in Congress.

Happy Sesquicentennial, Hinsdale. Here's to the next 150 years.

#### HONORING MRS. ANGIE WOMBLE RAWLS ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AS DIRECTOR OF CHORAL ACTIVITIES AT PEARL HIGH SCHOOL

#### HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Angie Womble Rawls on the occasion of her retirement as Director of Choral Activities at Pearl High School.

Mrs. Rawls has dedicated her 30-year professional career in the Pearl Public School District to cultivating excellence in education through her role in the fine arts. Not only has she taught her students how to read music and stay on key, but she has also helped build leaders through guidance, encouragement, and persistence. Mrs. Rawls has provided her students with exciting opportunities and has given them lasting joy in music.

Mrs. Rawls has been recognized by her peers as a phenomenal pianist, an award-winning choral director, and a respected clinician and adjudicator. Her choirs regularly receive all-superior ratings, and she has played an in-

tegral role in building a legacy of success in the Pearl Schools choral activities program. Mrs. Rawls received the Ernestine Ferrell Award, the highest honor for a choral director in Mississippi, in 2018, the Heart of the Arts Award for the State of Mississippi in 2019, and the Mississippi Music Educators Association Outstanding Music Educator of the Year Award in 2020. Mrs. Rawls was named 2022–2023 Teacher of the Year for the Pearl Public School District in recognition of her dedication to her students and for her substantial role in the success of the district overall.

I thank Mrs. Rawls for her dedication to Mississippi's future leaders and for her success in bringing the joy of music to so many in our state. May the Lord continue to bless her and keep her.

#### HONORING NADINE ELMGREN ON HER RETIREMENT AND 42 YEARS OF SERVICE IN MONTESSORI EDUCATION

#### HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Nadine Elmgren for 42 years of service as a Montessori Educator. Of her 42 years in Montessori Education, Nadine spent 35 years in The Children's House, acting as the Young Children's Community Guide, Primary Classroom Guide, Teacher Mentor, and Elementary Classroom Guide. Her undeniable drive to support her students and the community is applaudable, and she has had an immense impact on the lives of those she has worked with throughout her extensive career.

Upon graduating from Marylhurst College with a bachelor's degree in education, Nadine began her certification process for Montessori Education. She has continually strived to be an example for her students, as well as a reliable and trustworthy influence during their formative and perhaps most important years in school. Nadine has demonstrated what it truly means to be an exemplary educator, contributing to the academic and social growth of countless children throughout her time in Montessori Education.

Prioritizing the success and wellbeing of her students, Nadine has personally sacrificed much in her endeavor to change her students' lives for the better and to prepare them for their bright futures. It is a loss for the region that Michigan's First District will be without Nadine when school starts next fall, but her retirement is the culmination of years of hard work and an unwavering dedication to putting her students above herself. She deserves our gratitude for her tireless efforts to help those around her and the community in its entirety.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Nadine Elmgren for her decades of service to the Montessori Education system, including 35 years at The Children's House. She has led by example for her career and has been truly cherished by her coworkers and students alike. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I extend my gratitude to Nadine and her family and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING KATIE JACKSON

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Katie Jackson, whom I have named the 2023 Climate Crisis Champion for Sonoma County because of the important work she has done to address the threat and impacts of climate change on California's 4th Congressional District.

Ms. Jackson was born in San Francisco, California and attended Wellesley College in Massachusetts.

Ms. Jackson is an exemplary leader in the fight against greenhouse gas emissions. In 2016, she spearheaded an effort at Jackson Family Wines to become the largest onsite solar energy generating winery in the United States. Ms. Jackson also led the development and implementation of the company's Rooted for Good: Roadmap to 2030. This sustainability and climate action plan will transition Jackson Family Wines to completely regenerative farming practices and halve the company's carbon footprint over the next decade. Moreover, the plan will put her family's business on the path to becoming carbon-net-negative by 2050.

Ms. Jackson is committed to expanding sustainable practices not just in her business but in the entire wine community. She has been a leader in pushing for reforms in the international wine community that promote environmental stewardship. For example, as a co-founder of International Wineries for Climate Action, she works to mobilize wineries around the world to commit to fifty-percent absolute carbon reductions by 2030 and being carbon-net-negative by 2050. International Wineries for Climate Action was the first wine or agriculture organization to become a member of the United Nation's Race to Zero Campaign.

In addition to her work on reducing emissions, Ms. Jackson has done exceptional work on conservation. She has secured many Safe Harbor Agreements through her company to conserve habitats for endangered species including the California tiger salamander and the coho salmon. Moreover, she supported the reintroduction of thirty thousand coho salmon eggs into Yellowjacket Creek to support salmon population growth in the Russian River. Ms. Jackson has also led Jackson Family Wines to partner with the Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians to undertake a major groundwater recharge project in the Alexander Valley.

Mr. Speaker, Katie Jackson is an exemplary leader in sustainable viticulture and endangered species conservation. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as Sonoma County's 2023 Climate Crisis Champion.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ANDREA  
LEVY GOLDMAN**HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of my friend, An-

drea Levy Goldman, who sadly passed away on December 10, 2022, surrounded by her loved ones.

Andrea was born on March 27, 1985, to Mark Levy and Jo Ann McClosky Levy. She was the granddaughter of Donald and Judy McClosky, and Richard and Beatrice Levy. She was the middle sister to Brian and Evan. She was the twin flame to her husband, Adam Goldman, and a loving mother to Bryce. She was also a proud aunt to her nieces and nephews Mason, Decker, Sunday, Layla, and Henry.

After graduating from Pine Crest School in 2003, Andrea earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of Florida and a Master of Science in Mental Health Counseling from Nova Southeastern University.

Andrea was a proud third-generation Floridian who loved spending time with her family, traveling, hiking, going to the beach, volunteering with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and supporting the Florida Gators and Miami Dolphins.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in remembering the life of Andrea Levy Goldman. May her memory be a blessing to her family, friends, and those whose lives she has touched.

HONORING VIETNAM ERA  
VETERAN JOHN STEWART**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent and Vietnam era veteran John Stewart of Telford, Tennessee who served in the United States Army from 1967 through 1970. He was stationed in Korea, as well as Vietnam, where he served as a heavy equipment operator.

Stewart was first stationed in South Korea working on clearing roads in the winter for convoys near the Joint Security Area. While working there he witnessed the famous POW exchange of the Navy soldiers who were captured by North Korea on the USS *Pueblo*. In October of 1969, he was deployed to South Vietnam where he transported construction machinery.

After finishing his tour in Vietnam, he safely returned to his home in the United States in late 1970.

HONORING LIEUTENANT BRIAN  
GIDDIS FOR OVER 25 YEARS OF  
SERVICE IN THE GRAND TRA-  
VERSE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OF-  
FICE**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Lieutenant Brian Giddis for over 25 years of service in the Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Office. Throughout his time working in the department, Brian has displayed professionalism and respect for law and order while working to protect his community and its citizens.

Upon graduating from Montague High School in 1987, Brian pursued higher education at Delta College. After ranking 3rd in his class for Basic Police Academy Training at the college, Brian served as a part-time patrolman at the Hart and Montague Police Departments until becoming a deputy of the Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Office in 1997. Committed to his work, he has had a lasting impact on the local community and the department.

Deserving of unwavering respect and recognition, Lieutenant Brian Giddis' decorated career underscores his faithful commitment to the people of Grand Traverse County and epitomizes the ideal police officer. Grand Traverse County, and all of Michigan's First District, owe Brian our praise and gratitude for his time and devotion to his county over the past 25 years as a public servant.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Lieutenant Brian Giddis for his decades of service to the Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Office. His continued commitment to and sacrifice for our communities is something we must not take for granted. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I extend my gratitude to Brian and his family and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING TYRONE LOGAN,  
SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRA-  
TION'S 2023 SMALL BUSINESS  
PERSON OF THE YEAR FOR THE  
VIRGINIA DISTRICT OFFICE**HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Tyrone Logan, the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2023 Small Business Person of the Year for the Virginia District Office.

Over the last 40 years, America's strongest economic growth has been driven by small businesses and their employees. Currently, small businesses employ half of our country's workers. Entrepreneurs like Mr. Logan are an example of the American Dream, and today we celebrate his hard work and innovation.

Mr. Logan has an unwavering record of serving our Commonwealth and our country. He started his military career with the U.S. Marine Corps and later transitioned to the U.S. Navy, where he took part in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. During his time with the armed forces, he served as a Master Explosive Ordinance Disposal Technician and supported Special Operations Forces and Ground Combat Elements.

In 2010, Mr. Logan co-founded Obsidian Solutions Group, a company focused on America's homeland security, private sector security, and overall national security. Today, he serves as Obsidian Solutions Group's CEO, where he leads a team that focuses on integrating innovation and technology. Obsidian Solutions Group is an adaptive and flexible organization that emphasizes service and remains focused on putting mission first—working directly with our defense and intelligence communities to keep our communities safe. That's why Virginia's Seventh District is proud to be the home of OSG facilities, showrooms, and—most of all—its dedicated employees.

Mr. Logan's leadership is clear. In 2019, OSG was recognized as one of the 50 Fastest Growing Companies in the Washington, D.C. Metro Area. Additionally, Obsidian Solutions Group was listed as one of the most successful businesses on the INC 5000 list. And in 2020, Mr. Logan was named Entrepreneur of the Year by the Fredericksburg Regional Chamber of Commerce. Today, we celebrate another achievement of many more to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Tyrone Logan, the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2023 Small Business Person of the Year for the Virginia District Office.

HONORING SENIOR AIRMAN MICHAEL GELLER UPON RECEIVING THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Senior Airman Michael Geller of the 3rd Wing for earning the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service, dedication, and sacrifice during Operation Allies Refuge. He exemplifies the best of America, and his tireless efforts guarantee the safety of all those who call America home.

Last year, Senior Airman Michael Geller joined the servicemembers of the 349th Air Mobility Wing in meeting a challenge of colossal scale, when they helped execute the draw-down of forces from Afghanistan. Senior Airman Michael Geller and the 349th Air Mobility Wing played a critical role in the largest non-combatant evacuation operation in history, Operation Allies Refuge, ultimately saving over 124,000 lives. They directly supported the evacuation of nearly 13,000 Afghans while simultaneously managing the security and operations at Hamid Karzai International Airport. I have listened to countless stories from this group of brave men and women that exemplify the character, leadership, and bravery that is cultivated in the United States Air Force.

Service records only scratch the surface of the courageous actions performed during Operation Allies Refuge. These valiant servicemembers, like Senior Airman Michael Geller, put their hearts and lives on the line to save so many and epitomize the values of courage and patriotism.

On behalf of a grateful country and all the constituents of California's Eighth Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Senior Airman Michael Geller of the 3rd Wing for receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross and extend my sincere gratitude for his sacrifice and contributions to the defense of this great country.

HONORING JULIA JACKSON

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Julia Jackson, whom I

have named the 2023 Climate Crisis Champion for Sonoma County because of the important work she has done to address the threat and impacts of the climate crisis on California's 4th Congressional District.

Ms. Jackson was born in San Francisco, California and attended Scripps College in Claremont, California where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Ms. Jackson's work is fundamental to our state and nation's progress in implementing clean energy solutions. She sits on the California Department of Food and Agriculture State Board, where her expertise on sustainable farming plays a critical role in developing new agriculture policy. Ms. Jackson also founded the philanthropic organization Grounded, which funds clean energy projects, develops nature-based approaches to lowering atmospheric carbon levels, and provides legal advances on indigenous and environmental rights.

Additionally, in partnership with the Department of Energy, she launched the Clean Energy Freedom campaign to create a workforce pipeline to fill 900,000 new clean energy jobs. This effort was an instrumental component of President Biden's executive order invoking the Defense Production Act to accelerate our nation's production of key clean energy technologies.

Ms. Jackson has also responded to the climate crisis with international action. As a co-founder of the Keystone Species Alliance, she partnered with government officials in Mexico to introduce legislation protecting keystone species such as bees, mangrove trees, and salmon. In further collaboration with the Mexican government, Ms. Jackson created a coalition of nations who committed to protect biodiversity to lower the amount of carbon in our atmosphere.

Ms. Jackson sits on the board of many environmental organizations whose missions include exposing criminals committing offenses against wildlife, educating the public on Arctic and ocean protections, and generating innovative green policies that will advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Finally, as Chair of US Allies to Stop Ecocide, she endeavors to make the systemic, severe destruction of our natural environment a crime against peace at the International Criminal Court.

Mr. Speaker, Julia Jackson is a dedicated leader in energy and environmental advocacy. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as Sonoma County's 2023 Climate Crisis Champion.

HONORING SSGT. JAMES "REX" SHOUN

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent SSGT. James "Rex" Shoun. It was my honor to pin Staff Sergeant James "Rex" Shoun for his service to the U.S. Air Force.

SSGT. Shoun of Elizabethton, Tennessee enlisted in basic training which took him from Lackland, TX to Lowery, CO, and onward to Thailand as a member of the 635th Munition Maintenance Squadron.

He returned to the U.S. to receive additional training as security police and deployed to Texas, Okinawa, and Guam where he was responsible for guarding B52 strategic bomber aircraft and their munitions.

HONORING WAYNE SCHMIDT AND HIS 14 YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE

**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize Senator Wayne Schmidt for his 14 years of service in Michigan's State Legislature. As a State Representative and Senator, Wayne's work had an immeasurable impact on the people of Northern Michigan, and his commitment to his community cannot be overstated.

After graduating from Traverse City Central High School and the University of Chicago, Senator Schmidt began his distinguished career in the Grand Traverse region, where he served for five terms on the Traverse County Board of Commissioners. In 2008 he was elected to the State House of Representatives, where he served for three consecutive terms before being elected as the State Senator representing the 37th District. His many legislative accomplishments during his time in office included streamlining government regulations, promoting job creation, and helping turn a \$1.5 billion state government deficit into a \$500 million surplus. Outside of his work in public office, Senator Schmidt has given his time to many local community organizations, including the Boardman Neighborhood Association, the Traverse City Kiwanis Club, the Economic Club of Traverse, the National Cherry Festival, the Downtown Traverse City Association, Grand Traverse Area Right to Life Association, and Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Wayne Schmidt for his lifetime of service to Grand Traverse County and his 14 years in Michigan's State Legislature. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I extend my gratitude to Senator Schmidt and wish him and his family the best in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SUPERINTENDENT KURT BROWNING

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, Pasco County Schools Superintendent Kurt Browning, who was recently named Superintendent of the Year by Magnet Schools of America. This is a tremendous accomplishment and exemplifies Mr. Browning's tireless work to expand school choice in Pasco County. Since being elected Superintendent in 2012, he has worked to provide quality learning experiences for all students. Superintendent Browning's team has facilitated the opening of 26 new magnet schools and other rigorous programs aligned to fields of study based on community need



and student interest. These enhancements have facilitated greater student success, as evidenced by an increase in the number of students earning college credit prior to graduation and the number of Cambridge and 1B diplomas earned. Additionally, during his tenure, more students have been able to attain the highest level of Bright Futures Scholarship—making college more affordable for these academic achievers.

I thank Superintendent Browning for his commitment to ensuring that all students have the opportunity to reach their highest potential, and I wish him continued success.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I voted for H. Res. 311 on April 25, 2023, because I support the resolution's general goals to expand normalization agreements between Israel and its neighbors and encourage future cooperation between the United States and Israel on shared economic, security, and civilian priorities.

However, I was disappointed that H. Res. 311 failed to reaffirm bipartisan support for a two-state solution that respects the dignity of both the Israeli and the Palestinian people. As nations around the world confront their own struggles with democracy, H. Res. 311 also was a missed opportunity to emphasize U.S. support for a free and liberal democracy in Israel. I hope future efforts to recognize Yom Ha'atzmaut will fully address these important issues.

#### ASIAN PACIFIC HERITAGE MONTH

### HON. DON BACON

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize six individuals for Asian Pacific Heritage Month for their contributions to the Second Congressional District of Nebraska. All of these individuals mentioned their humble beginnings and their love for America. Each of these honorees have made significant contributions to the District through selfless contributions and hard work to benefit others. By sharing their culture and helping others, they have benefitted all of America.

Nebraska State Senator Rita Sanders, a Philippine American born in Hawaii who resides in Bellevue, has been married to her husband for 25 years. Her grandparents immigrated from the Philippines to Hawaii, where her grandfather worked in the sugar cane industry and her grandmother in the coffee industry. They worked their way up and eventually owned a coffee farm.

Rita's father was born and raised in Hawaii, later joining the United States Army. While on deployment in Germany he met Rita's mother, where they later married and moved to Hawaii.

Senator Sanders is honored to be a member of the U.S. STRATCOM Consultation

Committee, the Offutt Advisory Council and the UNMC Board of Counselors. She served as mayor for the city of Bellevue from 2010 to 2018. While currently serving as the state senator for Nebraska's 45th district, Rita and her husband are commercial real estate developers in their spare time.

As mayor of Bellevue, Senator Sanders worked to return the famed "Bells of Balangiga" to the Philippines. While Filipinos have been one of the United States strongest allies since World War II, the return of the bells had been a friction point in relations with the Philippines.

The return of the bells started with a meeting she had with President Duterte of the Philippines, included a formal ceremony with Secretary of Defense James Mattis in Cheyenne, Wyoming announcing the authorization to return the bells, and ended with a ceremony she attended in Balangiga in East Samar, Philippines. After 117 years since being taken by the United States, they were finally returned home where they rightfully belonged, thanks to the hard work and leadership of Senator Sanders.

Dr. Joanne Li is a native of Hong Kong and became University of Nebraska Omaha's Chancellor in July 2021. She is the first woman of color to serve as UNO chancellor and the first Asian-American in the history of the University of Nebraska System to hold an executive leadership role. Dr. Li has a passion for serving learners of all ages among all social, cultural, and economic backgrounds.

Born and raised in Hong Kong, Dr. Li's parents escaped Communist China as young teenagers. Education was not something her parents could afford for themselves. At a young age, Joanne yearned for a desire to see the world. She enjoyed literature written in different languages and dreamed of being something bigger than herself. Being a rebel at heart, she took a chance to join one of her best friends from Hong Kong and came to the U.S. to start her higher education journey.

Receiving full ride scholarships throughout her higher education journey, Dr. Li graduated with summa cum laude with a major in finance and a minor in economics from Florida State University. Her Ph.D. is also from Florida State University, in Finance with a support area in Econometrics. As a Chartered Financial Analyst, Dr. Li's areas of research interests include corporate governance, executive compensation, banking and investments, and international finance. She has held faculty positions at institutions including Loyola University, Towson University, Wright State University, Florida International University, and UNO.

In addition to her accomplishments as an administrator in higher education, Dr. Li is also a highly engaged leader and scholar who lends her experience to a wide array of causes and organizations including Women in Business (WiBe), the CNBC's Financial Wellness Council, the Higher Learning Commission's (HLC) Board of Trustees; the Board of Directors for the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities (CUMU); the Board of Directors for Opera Omaha; and the Board of Directors of the Omaha Symphony. She serves as a member of the European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD) Global Network Americas Advisory Board; a founding member of the International Advisory Council of the Lisbon School of Economics and Management in Portugal and the National

Sun Yat-Sen University in Taiwan. Most recently, Dr. Li joined the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City's Board of Directors for the Omaha Branch.

The death of his father due to a cardiac event is what drove Indian American Dr. Deepak Gangahar to become a Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeon with special emphasis on cardiac surgery. His mother, who had no formal schooling, was his confidant and trusted friend, ensuring Dr. Gangahar never felt lacking in any way.

Dr. Gangahar completed medical school in India and immigrated to America in 1971 for post graduate education in General Surgery. He then pursued a fellowship in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City.

Having grown up in a small town and in an agricultural state, Dr. Gangahar and his wife found shared social values, work ethics and ideal opportunities in Nebraska. Dr. Gangahar and his colleagues cofounded the Nebraska Heart Institute and the Nebraska Heart Hospital in Lincoln, which became the premium group in Mid-West in the field of Adult Thoracic and Cardiovascular diseases from catheterbased interventions to Heart & Lung Transplantation and Mechanical Hearts. Now retired, Dr. Gangahar works with TeamMates, a school based mentoring program founded by Coach Tom and Nancy Osborne. In addition, he enjoys working with new Start-Up companies, primarily in the medical field to make healthcare safer and efficient.

Dr. Gangahar credits who he is today to the value he got from his parents, mentoring from his teachers and elders, and the opportunity of freedom to choose from his country of choice, the United States of America.

Chinese American Hong Zheng came to the United States in 1992 at the age of 19. He opened his first Chinese restaurant in Missouri 1998 and subsequently moved to Omaha in 2000 to start new restaurants and a grocery business. He currently owns seven Asian restaurants and five Asian Chain Supermarkets across the Midwest region.

He has been an active member in Nebraska Chinese Association since 2008 and was elected as Chairman of Board for NCA for four years. He has been an Honorable Chairman since then and currently serves on the Board of Directors for Bellevue University.

Hong says he appreciates the opportunity to live the American dream, especially as he knows how difficult it can be for new immigrants to adapt and thrive in a foreign country. That is why he serves his community—to give back and assist other immigrants and help them succeed.

In 2019, Hong helped raise money for local flood victims and in 2020 he coordinated the donation of over 25,000 masks and PPE to local health clinics and hospitals. He sponsored the One Community Culture Festival in 2019 and 2022 to celebrate culture and diversity. Finally, he has sponsored scholarship programs at Bellevue University for local and international students in need since 2019.

Born and raised in Vietnam during the war, Huong Truong understood the importance of responsibility to her family and helping with household tasks while also attending school 5 kilometers away. She is an avid reader and sports enthusiast who gained a deeper understanding of American people, customs, and history. She was so impressed by the intelligence and emotional deaths of Americans,

which led her to pursue her American dream, arriving in the United States in 2001.

In one year, Huang earned \$42,000 from her job and was able to buy a house and car for her family. She then became the owner of a nail salon and met her husband, Nick. Together they operate King Kong Restaurant and have three daughters and a son.

Huang is very passionate about helping others and volunteering is a personal mission for her. She is currently helping six families who are facing difficult circumstances, including a 107 year old woman who needed assistance with money and medicine. Huang said she feels blessed by God with good health and a kind heart and is grateful to America for giving her the opportunity to live her dream.

Born in North Korea in 1938, Sung Jo and his family fled to South Korea in 1946 to join his father, who had fled a year earlier after facing arrest from Communist police. His father's crime? Giving a speech celebrating the liberation from 35 years of Japanese rule—something we call freedom of speech.

At 21 years old, Sung Jo was drafted by the Korean Army and served for 18 months. He went on to earn a bachelor's degree in English Literature in 1963. He started working for the Holt Adoption Program in Seoul and went to the United States in 1967 and was responsible for bringing orphaned Korean children to their adoptive parents. His family joined him in July 1969, and he became a U.S. citizen in 1974.

Sung Jo started working at Nebraska Machine Production in 1972 and served as Chair of the Korean Association of Nebraska from 1995 to 1996, and as a member of the Board of Directors in 1997. In 2002, he volunteered as an interpreter at the 2002 FIFA World Cup Korea/Japan in South Korea and from 2003 to 2014 he served as the Chair of the Omaha Korean American Senior Group.

In 2005 he became a Lifelong member of the National Korean War Veterans Association and received a citation in 2007 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for his services to the Korean American community. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Korean War Veterans Association.

Sung Jo wanted to continue to serve as a liaison between the Korean War Veterans Association and Korean American community, so he donated face masks for Korean War veterans who could not leave their homes during the COVID pandemic.

I salute and thank each of these six honorees for their service and dedication to not only Asian Pacific communities and the Second District of Nebraska, but to America.

HONORING VALERIA CANTOR  
MÉNDEZ

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Valeria Cantor Méndez, whom I have named the 2023 Climate Crisis Champion for Yolo County because of the important work she has done to address the threat and impacts of climate change on California's 4th Congressional District.

Ms. Méndez was born in Caracas, Venezuela and attended her first two years of high

school at Mount View School in San Jose, Costa Rica. Before her senior year, she moved to Rocklin, California where she completed her final year of high school.

Ms. Méndez has prioritized environmental justice and Indigenous sovereignty throughout her academic career. She studies at the University of California, Davis (UC Davis) and is working towards a bachelor's degree with a major in Community and Regional Development and a minor in Environmental Policy Analysis and Planning. Ms. Méndez utilizes her personal experiences as a student along with her strong interest in environmental justice to raise awareness and generate support for climate action in the UC Davis community.

As the campaign vice-chair for Students Enacting Environmental Defense, Ms. Méndez advocates for environmental justice as an integral value of the University of California system. Ms. Méndez's dedication to climate response inspires others in the UC Davis community as she invites greater engagement on climate action for everyone from the students to the chancellor. Ms. Méndez explores the connections between environmental justice and Indigenous sovereignty by building strong working relationships between faculty and climate-allied student organizations. She also served as a student research assistant with the UC Davis Center for Regional Change, a project that builds community resiliency through environmental sustainability.

Ms. Méndez has a strong interest in combatting the effects of the climate crisis and educating future generations on issues of environmentalism. In addition to her work at the UC Davis, Ms. Méndez educates high school students through the Youth, Plan, Learn, Act Now program about the historical context of environmental justice emphasizing the contributions of Black, Indigenous, and other communities of color. Ms. Méndez is also the hub co-coordinator for Sunrise Movement Davis, a youth empowerment movement with the goal of stopping climate change.

Mr. Speaker, Valeria Cantor Méndez is a dedicated leader in energy and environmental advocacy. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as Yolo County's 2023 Climate Crisis Champion.

HONORING HM3 RAYMOND  
SHOCKLEY

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class (HM3) Raymond Austin Shockley from Morristown, Tennessee for his honorable service in the United States Navy as partner of the 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemoration.

After basic training in 1964, HM3 Shockley's first duty station was at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland, now known as Walter Reed Military Medical Center, where he provided front line medical services like that of a nurse. In doing so, he met and equally cared for all his fellow service members, even President Lyndon B. Johnson. In 1965 he was transferred to Camp Pendleton in California to further his training as a Marine. Still following a

commitment to serve, he went on to Okinawa, then Vietnam where he aided the wounded and experienced the horrors of war. He returned to San Diego, CA and finished his service on the USS *Sperry* AS 12 named for Elmer Sperry, a Fulton-class submarine tender repair ship. Presently, he continues his lifetime of service as Commander of our local Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 59 in Morristown.

Further, HM3 Shockley wishes to personally share, "To all the men and women that were a part of my military life, you all will remain my brothers and sister forever."

Join me in thanking HM3 Shockley and letting him know he truly made a difference.

HONORING MAJOR WARREN  
SCHWAB FOR HIS DISTIN-  
GUISHED MILITARY SERVICE  
AND 102ND BIRTHDAY

**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize retired aviator Major Warren Schwab for his distinguished military service and for recently celebrating his 102nd birthday. Flying B-24 Liberators during World War II, Warren valiantly took part in over 20 missions during the largest and deadliest global conflict in history. Upon its conclusion in 1945, he continued his military career by serving in both the Korean War and Vietnam. Warren's commitment to the state of Michigan and to the defense of our Nation has been unwavering and serves as an inspiration to many.

Born in 1921, Major Schwab grew up during the Great Depression and enlisted in the military shortly thereafter. Upon entry into our armed forces, Warren demonstrated exemplary tact and bravery in every mission he was part of. Notably, he led the way on June 6, 1944, by conducting morning bomb raids on enemy positions across the Normandy Coast and Munich. His unparalleled gallantry and commitment to his peers is undeniable and worthy of recognition.

Major Warren Schwab is a living testament to all who have sacrificed in service to our country. Surviving one of World War II's most dangerous positions with some of the highest mortality rates of all enlisted personnel in the war, Major Schwab chose to continue his service to our country and his community. His recent 102nd birthday on February 24th prompts all residents of Michigan's First District to cherish and thank those servicemembers who reflect Mr. Schwab's caliber of devotion and sacrifice. We are blessed as a Nation to have Veterans like Major Warren Schwab.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Major Warren Schwab for his service in the U.S. Armed Forces and for his 102nd birthday, celebrated on February 24, 2023. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I extend our utmost respect and gratitude to Major Schwab for his military service, and our congratulations for his recent birthday. I would also like to extend my best wishes to him and his family in their future endeavors.

HONORING MR. ODED NORKIN

**HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Oded Norkin, an extraordinary public servant who over the past year has provided extensive humanitarian assistance to the Country of Ukraine. When Russia began its illegal invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, Mr. Norkin answered the call and selflessly dedicated his time to sourcing and delivering critical aid to the most vulnerable citizens of Ukraine. For Mr. Norkin, this was personal: his grandparents, Sara and Moshe Norkin, were killed in the streets of Odesa, Ukraine, in 1941, during the Holocaust. Mr. Norkin, who was born in Israel and served in the Israeli Army during the 1973 war before immigrating to the United States in 1978, has become a pillar of the community in Mid-Michigan. A man of action, he immediately looked for ways to help.

Mr. Norkin, alongside the Greater Lansing Jewish Federation and concerned citizens across the State of Michigan and beyond, gathered donations for the people of Ukraine. Separate from his activism, Mr. Norkin serves as the Vice President of Michigan Flyer, a public-transportation bus company. Because of this, he was able to translate his knowledge of the transportation industry into lifesaving help for the people of Ukraine. In the early days of the war, Mr. Norkin, together with a team of volunteers, helped evacuate elderly and infirm citizens of Odesa and Kharkiv to safety. Mr. Norkin and his team also secured five vehicles—four ambulances and one commercial vehicle—and necessary medical supplies and emergency equipment to be sent to Ukraine. The Greater Lansing Jewish Federation raised donations to cover the cost of an ambulance, defibrillators, and additional first aid supplies.

The ambulances were refurbished, supplied with emergency equipment specific to conflict zones, and delivered to cities across Ukraine. Mr. Norkin transferred the first of these ambulances to Odesa in March 2022. Within a month, a second and third ambulance were sent to Dnipro full of supplies to help aid vulnerable citizens. The fourth ambulance was later sent to Kyiv, and a commercial evacuation vehicle was sent to Chernivtsi.

Mr. Norkin has galvanized support for the Ukrainian people across Michigan and beyond. He has partnered with civil society leaders in Israel and Romania who have supported his efforts and connected him with like-minded individuals who assisted in completing these missions.

Mr. Norkin remains an important leader in his local community. Even while traveling abroad to deliver aid, he remains active in the Kehillat Israel Congregation and the Rotary International Service Club. Through these connections, Mr. Norkin continues to recruit, organize, and inspire others to join him in his mission to provide humanitarian assistance to the people of Ukraine.

Mr. Oded Norkin continues to carry out this important work. He answers to a higher call to render assistance to those in greatest need, stands as a shining example and inspiration to all for his selfless efforts to provide humani-

tarian assistance to the people of Ukraine, and will forever be remembered.

HONORING THE LAKE COUNTY  
CAMPUS OF WOODLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Lake County Campus of Woodland Community College in recognition of their 50th anniversary.

Founded in 1972, the college was originally named the Lake County Center of Yuba College and offered academic and career technical courses at the Konocti Harbor Inn in Kelseyville. Two years later, it moved to Clearlake where it began to grow into the 12.7 acre facility it is today. The college was recognized as a center by the California Commission of Post-Secondary Education in 1990 and renamed "Clear Lake Campus" in 2003. It is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

The college's most recent expansion came in 2012 when it added a new student services center, library, kitchen, dining room and additional classrooms. In July 2016, the college merged with the Woodland Community College and adopted its current name. Last year, the City of Clearlake announced that it would invest \$55,000 in the Lake County Campus to implement a last dollar scholarship program.

In its 50-year history, the Lake County Campus has developed a reputation as one of California's premiere community colleges, offering acclaimed courses in business, early childhood education, biology, welding, chemical dependency counseling and various other subjects to thousands. It has also helped make college more affordable by offering two years of pre-transfer work for students interested in attending other institutions. The Lake County Campus prioritizes diversity of background and thought, providing interactive classrooms that encourage an open exchange of ideas.

In 2000, the college opened its culinary department which has since grown into one of its most popular programs. Under the leadership of Chef Robert Cabrerios, the department includes the student-run Aroma's Restaurant and offers multiple certificates as well as a partnership with the United States Coast Guard.

Mr. Speaker, the Lake County Campus of Woodland Community College has been a source of quality education for over half a century and made immeasurable contributions to its community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that it is honored here today.

HONORING SPC. JAMES L.  
SCHREINER

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Army Specialist,

5th Class James L. Schreiner of Seymour, Tennessee for his valiant service during the Vietnam War from February 1966 through January 1969.

Specialist Schreiner served 2 tours of duty with the 572nd Transportation Company in Long Binh and Bien Hoa, Vietnam, where he delivered ammunition and supplies directly to the front lines of battle. Following his military service, Specialist Schreiner returned to Chicago to raise his two sons with his wife, Diane, where he joined the Chicago Police Department as a patrolman and later homicide detective.

After 31 years of public service, Specialist Schreiner retired from law enforcement in 2002. He is deeply proud of his 2 sons, who are both colonels serving in the U.S. Army and Space Force, as well as his 6 grandchildren, one of whom is also an Army officer.

HONORING CHARLES NORTHPROP'S  
MILITARY SERVICE AND RECENT  
CELEBRATION OF HIS 100TH  
BIRTHDAY

**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize retired aviator Charles Northrop for his distinguished military service and for recently celebrating his 100th birthday. Flying P51s during World War II, Charles Northrop valiantly served our Nation during the largest global conflict in history. He is a longtime resident of Traverse City and has had a profound impact on his community. Northrop's commitment to the state of Michigan and to the defense of our Nation has been unwavering and serves as an inspiration to many.

Joining the armed forces in the early 1940s, Charles was assigned to his unit and began his time in the P51 Mustang shortly thereafter. While flying for the United States, Charles became an indispensable part of our rapidly expanding wartime air wing. Upon the War's conclusion, Charles returned to the United States and started his time at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama. Established in 1941, Redstone Arsenal acted as a chemical weapons production center and is now one of the Nation's largest defense complexes.

Charles Northrop is a living testament to the sacrifice and fortitude of countless United States servicemen and women. He has dedicated himself to our Nation in service both at home and abroad and is the embodiment of American exceptionalism. His recent birthday on February 13th, on which he turned 100 years of age, is worthy of our recognition and celebration. I wish you a happy birthday, Charles, and thank you for your tireless service to our country and to the residents of Michigan's First District.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Charles Northrop for his service in the U.S. Armed Forces and for his 100th birthday, celebrated on February 13, 2023. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I extend my gratitude to Mr. Northrop for his legacy of service and wish him a happy birthday. I would also like to extend my best wishes to him and his family in their future endeavors.



HONORING THE CONTRA COSTA  
SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIA-  
TION'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MARK DeSAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of the Contra Costa Special Districts Association (CCSDA) on its 30th anniversary.

Since 1993, CCSDA has provided a space for Contra Costa's independent special districts to exchange ideas and information in order to best serve our communities. The organization was founded when Chuck Beesley, former General Manager of the Contra Costa Mosquito Abatement District and Bob Berggren, General Manager of the Pleasant Hill Recreation & Park District, realized the need for a space in which Contra Costa's special districts could work together on various regional issues. CCSDA was founded in order to ensure that special districts receive tax revenue needed to provide essential services to the public and to increase awareness of the services special districts provide.

As part of its work, CCSDA plays a key role in disseminating important information from Contra Costa County's special districts to key stakeholders, the public, and local government agencies. This is critical as special districts provide an array of services to Contra Costa residents including fire protection, parks and recreation, flood control, natural resource conservation, wastewater management, and more. Further, CCSDA facilitates communication between the special districts and provides a space for the County's special districts to collaborate on a number of projects. Additionally, CCSDA works closely with the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) to promote good governance by offering professional development resources to the special districts. Their work has been instrumental in expanding local services and improving access to public services.

Please join me in recognizing the Contra Costa Special Districts Association's 30th anniversary and congratulating them on their success.

HONORING S. DALE HIGH

**HON. LLOYD SMUCKER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincere congratulations to Mr. S. Dale High, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, as he has been named the recipient of the Distinguished Citizen of the Commonwealth Award from the Pennsylvania Society.

Dale High is the Chair Emeritus of the High Companies. In 1963, Dale joined his father and brother in the family business, becoming Chairman of the Board, President and CEO in 1977. Over the course of 60 years since he joined the business, Dale has transformed the company through expansion into new industries, employing nearly 2,000 individuals across 38 facilities in 8 states.

In 1980, the High Foundation was formed. It is a charitable organization which has given

generously to support organizations and to eliminate the issues that contribute to the cycle of poverty.

The High Foundation supports those working to solve problems with education, housing, transportation, healthcare, financial literacy, childcare, nutrition, and more.

There is no question the positive impact that Dale High's actions and leadership have contributed to our Lancaster County community and beyond. He is certainly a Distinguished Citizen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I congratulate him on this well-deserved award and thank him for making a difference in our community.

HONORING E-4 CORPORAL KYLE E.  
PRICE

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent E-4 Corporal Kyle E. Price of Elizabethton, Tennessee, who I had the privilege to meet at our Carter County Pin Ceremony.

Cpl. Price says he became both "a man and a lifelong Marine" in March of 1970, after he graduated from Boot Camp at Parris Island. Cpl. Price specialized as a machine gunner where he wielded an M60 squad automatic weapon, nicknamed "The Pig" due to its sheer size, and carried 200 linked rounds of ammunition every single day in defense of our Nation and freedoms. His duty stations included Camp Geiger (NC), Sea School Norfolk Naval Shipyard (VA), Hue and Da Nang (Vietnam), Marine Barracks Alameda Naval Air Station (CA), and the Marine Barrack Subic Bay Naval Base, Olongapo (Philippines).

He was also assigned security duties aboard the USS *Enterprise* CVAN-65, the first nuclear-powered ship to engage in combat, when she launched aircraft against the Viet Cong. His lifelong status as a Marine has continued far beyond active duty as a member of The Tri-Cities Detachment of the Marine Corps League (Gray), where he served as Commandant.

He is also a life member of VFW Post 2166 (Elizabethton), American Legion Post 24 (Johnson City) and an officer of the Military Order of the Devil Dogs Pound 300 TN Pack, the Honor Society of the Marine Corps League.

HONORING THE VETERANS OF  
FOREIGN WARS CHERRYLAND  
POST 2780 FOR 90 YEARS OF CON-  
TINUED SERVICE

**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to commemorate the Veterans of Foreign Wars Cherryland Post 2780 for 90 years of continued service to their members and community. Since being chartered in 1933, Post 2780 has grown significantly, originally having 43 members, and now boasting more

than 900 members. Post 2780 has cemented itself as one of Northern Michigan's most impactful organizations for community members and veterans alike. Their impact on the community is immeasurable, and their organization has become an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

Since 1933, this post has encountered obstacles on all fronts, yet has continually evolved to stand the test of time and to become one of America's most respected VFW posts due to their exemplary work at the district, state, and national levels. Through donation drives and fundraisers, Post 2780 has helped their community and local veterans acquire the necessary tools to live happy and healthy lives. From distributing donated wheelchairs to those in need, to being a key contributor to the Toys for Tots Program, Post 2780 prioritizes the most vulnerable members of society and aims to make an indelible impact on all who require assistance.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the Veterans of Foreign Wars Cherryland Post 2780's staff, families, members, and volunteers for their continued efforts to make the post an extraordinary part of Northern Michigan. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I wish them all the best in their future endeavors and wished everyone had a safe and enjoyable afternoon at their 90th Anniversary event on Saturday, March 25th.

RECOGNIZING DENISE JONES

**HON. BETH VAN DUYNE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize North Texas teacher Denise Jones. Denise has faithfully served Birdville Independent School District for over 50 years as an administrative assistant and educator. Denise is a dedicated, loving and loyal teacher who cares about her students and their well-being.

Joining Birdville ISD in 1972 as a senior in high school, Denise has shown unwavering commitment to the school district and her students. 2023 marks her 50th year as an educator working across numerous grade levels and subjects. This year also marks her 25th working in the special education department. Denise believes regardless of what may be happening in the world, teaching children kindness should always be a priority. I think I speak for everyone in Birdville ISO and in Texas-24 when I say thank you to Denise for devoting 50 years of her life to educating our children and securing their future.

I congratulate Denise on earning this recognition for all her tireless and dedicated work.

HONORING SPC. BOBBY L.  
McCLURE

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Army Specialist Bobby L. McClure of Sevierville, Tennessee

for his distinguished service from May 1966 through May 1968.

In December 1966, Specialist McClure arrived in Vietnam where he served the 231st Signal Detachment attached to the 220th Aviation Company, which provided close air support missions in support of the Marines in Phu Bai near Hue. Specifically, Specialist McClure maintained and fixed aircraft navigation and radio equipment for the 220th Aviation Company.

After completing his military enlistment, Specialist McClure worked for Hewlett-Packard in Colorado and Maryland, before he returned to his hometown of Sevierville in 1976.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE SECURE AND FAIR ENFORCEMENT BANKING ACT

##### HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday Representative Dave Joyce and I introduced the Secure and Fair Enforcement Banking Act, or the SAFE Banking Act. This legislation would prevent federal interference in the relationship between a depository institution and a cannabis or cannabis-associated business. This legislation will also protect these businesses' employees are eligible for federal loans and other banking services like employees of any other legal business.

U.S. cannabis laws are broken, including those that prevent state-legal cannabis businesses from accessing banking services and force regulated businesses to operate fully in cash. To date, 38 states have enacted medical marijuana programs, including 21 states that have also decriminalized broader adult use. However, the conflict between state regulation and federal prohibition prevents many financial institutions, including community development financial institutions, minority depository institutions, and credit unions, from serving cannabis and cannabis-related businesses and their employees. Denying state-legal med-

ical and adult-use cannabis businesses, particularly small and locally owned businesses, access to banking services is untenable. Without access to bank accounts, credit cards, and checks, state-legal cannabis and cannabis-related businesses are forced to operate in cash, leaving them vulnerable to a dangerous and deadly pattern of violent robberies.

The SAFE Banking Act will finally allow state regulated cannabis and related businesses to access banking services. This legislation will save lives and livelihoods.

The House has passed the SAFE Banking Act on a bipartisan basis seven times. I am delighted that the Senate is joining us in making it a priority. I look forward to working with our co-leads and our colleagues in the House and Senate to enact this legislation and end the harmful prohibition on banking services for state-legal cannabis businesses.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend votes due to a medical procedure. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 195 (PQ-H. Res. 327), NAY on Roll Call No. 196 (H. Res. 327), and YEA on Roll Call No. 197 (H.R. 1353).

#### HONORING TRAVERSE CITY'S OUTGOING CITY MANAGER, MARTY COLBURN

##### HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Traverse City's outgoing City Manager, Marty Colburn, for his exceptional work since taking the position in 2015.

Throughout his time as Traverse City's City Manager, Marty has displayed exceptional professionalism and gained the respect of many in his community.

In nearly eight years as City Manager, Marty has overseen the completion of multiple community projects that have benefited the city and the livelihoods of its residents. From the long-anticipated Boardman Lake Loop Trail to affordable housing projects, Marty has pushed many initiatives over the finish line for the health and well-being of all community members.

Marty's accomplishments are deserving of respect and have had an indelible impact on Traverse City and the surrounding region. The relationships he has forged with local townships and communities will continue to have positive effects for years to come. Marty deserves praise for his time as City Manager and his continued devotion to the community he served.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Marty Colburn for nearly eight years of service as Traverse City's City Manager. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I extend my gratitude to Marty and his family and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

#### HONORING MSG. (RET.) CARL WAYNE NICHOLS

##### HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent MSG. (Ret.) Carl Wayne Nichols for his distinguished service in the U.S. Army.

Hailing from Butler, Tennessee, MSG. Nichols began his service in 1970, during which he toured Vietnam as a member of the 173rd Airborne.

MSG. Nichols continued his service as a member of Operation Desert Storm, and later in Indianapolis, Indiana. Join me in thanking him for his service.