

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT DON FINK, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2021 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

### HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor fifteen distinguished military veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District who answered the call to serve their Nation honorably, both in uniform and following their return to civilian life. The recipients of the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation exemplify the timehonored qualities of patriotism, service before self, and bold leadership. Following their time in service, their efforts in our community have earned these fine individuals recognition as the recipients of this prestigious commendation. Their stories of sacrifice will encourage future generations to pursue a life dedicated to the very values we cherish as Americans: faith, freedom, and democracy. One such hero is Sergeant Don Fink of Frisco, Texas.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Don Fink moved to Texas early in life where he graduated from Richardson High School. From a young age, Don's father, a World War II veteran, instilled in him a keen awareness that our country's freedoms were at risk. In 1968, a 20-year-old Fink would enlist as an Infantryman in the U.S. Army. He was assigned to Chu Lai, Vietnam where his contributions in building the strategically important LZ Maryanne would ultimately keep the enemy from advancing on American troops and in due course save thousands of soldiers' lives.

Sergeant Fink's awards include a Bronze Star, Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Overseas Service Bar, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Army Sharpshooter Marksmanship Badge, Expert Marksmanship Medal, and Combat Infantry Badge.

Upon his return to civilian life, Don would begin employment with United Parcel Service (UPS) where he would eventually manage several statewide regional centers. After graduating from the University of Texas at Arlington, Don would establish his own successful staffing and recruiting business.

Today, Don has become known as a widely respected and beloved advocate on behalf of our veterans. As an active member of the Frisco Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 8273 he is deeply admired as the current Chaplain. In addition to attending funerals, tending to the sick and needy, as well as those in crisis, Don has been known to personally drive veterans to service officer appointments for benefits counseling. As the proud father of two children and two grandchildren, Don currently resides in Frisco with

his beloved dog, Bella. Sergeant Don Fink is a stranger to none and continues to exemplify the spirit of this award through his willingness to help those in need.

Today a grateful Nation thanks Sergeant Fink for his exceptional service and congratulates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

### DALTON DAVEY

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dalton Davey also known as Dr. Derpster of Northglenn, Colorado for receiving the City of Northglenn Young Entrepreneur Award.

The Young Entrepreneur Award is given to a Northglenn student that has displayed entrepreneurial prowess and has stood out amongst their peers. This year's award goes to the YouTuber, Dr. Derpster. This young man has brought joy to hundreds of subscribers each week as he plays many of the most popular video games. This knack for entertainment is impressive, and I encourage him to continue to bring joy to people in all aspects of his life.

Dr. Derpster represents some of the brightest youths that Northglenn has to offer. It is a testament to the schools in our community for fostering such a comprehensive learning environment. I wish him nothing but the best in the future and congratulate him on winning this award.

### HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF HUEBER BREUER

### HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th Anniversary of Hueber Breuer, a legacy construction firm in Central New York that has developed and built some of the most impactful projects in the region.

Since its founding in 1872, Hueber Breuer has remained a family-run business and is currently led by its fifth and sixth generations. Today, it is the largest, continuously operating, family-owned construction and contracting firm in Central New York.

In its 150 years of operation, Hueber Breuer has played a key role in developing the City

of Syracuse and Central New York. The company has helped build and restore many of the landmarks that define our skylines, such as the Landmark Theater, the Franklin Center, the Samaritan Center, and the Exposition Center at the New York State Fairgrounds. For the firm's stellar work, Hueber Breuer has received numerous awards including the Associated General Contractors of New York Safety Award, the American General Contractors Build New York Award, and the Preservation Association of Central New York Award of Merit.

Aside from its construction projects, Hueber Breuer also aims to revitalize Central New York through philanthropic endeavors. These endeavors include an annual Community Volunteer Day, in which the company's employees volunteer for charitable organizations in the region.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House to join me in recognizing the upcoming 150th Anniversary of Hueber Breuer. Since its founding, the company has made tremendous contributions on Central New York through its visionary construction projects and dedication to the community.

### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MICHAEL COLLINS

### HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. GIMENEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Michael Collins. His unwavering sense of conviction and outstanding public service to his community earned him respect and admiration from those who knew him and anyone he crossed paths with.

The state of Florida recognizes his success as the champion of the Greater Everglades ecosystem from Orlando to the Keys. His leadership on the South Florida Water Management Board for over a decade has tangibly benefited the lives of tens-of-millions Floridians. His advocacy for Florida Bay, Lake Okeechobee as well as the Upper Chain of Lakes was heard and acted upon.

Michael Collins had the unique ability to unite various stakeholders to implement consensus solutions to complex water resource issues. He was the father of the creation of the Water Resource Advisory Commission to carry out this mission. His grand contributions cannot be measured. He was always attentive to his community and gave it his all.

Michael Collins will be remembered for his lifelong contributions and dedication to Florida's water resources. Captain Mike will be missed at the helm, however, his "troops" will carry on the mission. It's an honor to commemorate a man of this stature and integrity. Michael Collins will be profoundly missed.

God bless.

• 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.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 338.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT WILLIAM "BILL" HENRY, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2021 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

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Drafted into the U.S. Army in 1952, Bill Henry was trained as a Combat Radio Relay Operator. While stationed in Korea, Sergeant Henry controlled an Artillery Battery, radioing coordinates for artillery shells to be discharged at enemy targets. Bill ended his active duty service in 1954, but would complete eight years in the Army Reserves prior to his final discharge. Sergeant Henry credits his time on the front lines with preparing him for a successful career in electronics and computers following the war.

For his service, Sergeant Henry was awarded the Korean Service Medal, two Bronze Stars, United Nations Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Sharpshooter Badge, and Good Conduct Medal.

Following his time in service, Bill returned home and married the love of his life, the late Jane Donovan Henry. Together they raised six children. Bill's commitment to his community is evidenced by his 72-year tenure in the Knights of Columbus where he has held almost every single office including that of Grand Knight. Bill maintains a deep passion for supporting our veterans and he has done so through the Wheelchair Mission which supplies wheelchairs to our veterans at the VA Medical Centers in Bonham and Dallas, Texas. Additionally, Sergeant Henry was instrumental in establishing the American Legion Hale-Combest Post 315 in Wylie where he held the position of Judge Advocate.

Even at 91 years old, Mr. Henry has not slowed his efforts to serve his community. Love of God, family, and country, and a life dedicated to service sum up the character of

Sergeant Henry whom we applaud for his longtime commitment to America and our community.

Today a grateful Nation thanks Sergeant Henry, for his exceptional service and congratulates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

RECOGNIZING THE VETERANS AIRLIFT COMMAND

**HON. JAY OBERNOLTE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of the Veteran Airlift Command, an organization which I've volunteered with for many years that has a dedicated network of volunteers working to support our nation's wounded warriors across the country.

The Veteran Airlift Command, founded by Vietnam War veteran Walter Fricke, has impacted the lives of countless wounded veterans by providing them and their families air transportation when they desperately need it. After being wounded while serving as a helicopter pilot in Vietnam, Walter, like countless other wounded veterans, had to face the challenges presented by everyday civilian life. He realized that despite commercial air travel constituting one of the most essential aspects of modern life, it was among the most inaccessible, especially for our wounded veterans.

As a military trained pilot with over 800 hours of combat flying, Walter was well equipped to remedy this issue. He had an idea for a national organization of volunteer pilots and aircraft that would fly wounded warriors and their families with dignity, respect, and gratitude, and so in 2006 he founded the Veteran Airlift Command.

Walter started the Veterans Airlift Command with his own personal finances, flying expertise, and aircraft, but today the Veterans Airlift Command has grown into substantial program that boasts a volunteer core of over 2,600 volunteer pilots and aircraft with over 18,000 passengers successfully flown.

The VAC has been and will continue to be an incredible and essential lifeline for wounded veterans and their families. Thanks to their work and that of thousands of volunteer pilots across the country, we can give back to our nation's wounded warriors and provide the dignity, respect, and comfort that our heroes deserve. I am honored to recognize the VAC today and proud to have the opportunity to volunteer with this organization and give back to those who have sacrificed part of themselves in the defense of this Nation.

## FIT THEOREM

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fit Theorem of Northglenn,

Colorado for earning the City of Northglenn's People's Choice Award.

The People's Choice Award recognizes a Northglenn business for their customer service and customer satisfaction within the community. Fit Theorem is known for being one of Colorado's premier kickboxing studios. Their mission is to improve the lives of clients by making them healthier in both mind and body. With several locations across the state and country, Northglenn is lucky to have one of their studios in our community. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the team at Fit Theorem moved many of their classes on line and continue to bring fitness and fun to people during a difficult time.

Congratulations again to Fit Theorem for this accomplishment, and I wish them all the best in the future. I thank them for their contribution to our community.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF PASTOR JEREMY DAVID SMITH

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Pastor Jeremy David Smith. Jeremy spent over 20 years as a leader and minister in local churches. He strove to create a family environment that shared both the challenging and celebratory times with the members of the church.

Pastor Jeremy was devout to his congregation and he was dedicated to continue Sunday Worship throughout the pandemic. He held outside services and worked to ensure the safe and comfortable experience for all members of the church, especially caring for the older members so they would be able to attend, experience, and hear the Word of God, no matter what.

David is survived by his wife, Audra Smith; children, Nicholas, Logan, Katiana, Kalista, and Korinna Smith. Madam Speaker, I ask that you extend your thoughts and prayers to Jeremy's family and friends as they mourn the loss of their loved one. I pray that God is with Jeremy's family and friends during this difficult time.

IN RECOGNITION OF LARKIN V. "PETE" BOWEN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. NEAL P. DUNN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a member of our Greatest Generation and Florida's Second Congressional District, Larkin V. "Pete" Bowen of Marianna, Florida.

Born October 24, 1921, Mr. Bowen moved to Wewahatchka, Florida with his family in 1941 to build a new life.

Like so many in the Panhandle during that time, he found work anywhere he could.

In 1943, Mr. Bowen started working for the State Road Department, now the Florida Department of Transportation, in Jackson County as a road crew guard.

He later moved to Marianna in the 1950s with his beloved wife Orianna and three children.

During his 42 years working for the state, Pete paved most of the roads across north Florida and maintained a small farm to provide for his family.

From shucking oysters to delivering the "Pensacola News Journal" on Sundays, Mr. Bowen made sure there was enough money to see his children succeed.

In his community, Pete is known for his generosity and unwavering faith.

He has been a pillar among both the New Hope Baptist and Trinity Baptist and has selflessly helped with repairs and upkeep at both churches.

Mr. Bowen is also known for sharing his crops with neighbors and lending a helping hand to any fellow farmer who needs one.

Today, Pete Bowen has eight grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

Throughout his lifetime, Mr. Bowen has turned his two acres into thirty and has built a long-lasting legacy.

Stories like his are what truly makes Florida's Second District so great.

Please join me in wishing Mr. Bowen a happy 100th birthday.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FLOOD PREVENTION ACT OF 2021**

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the District of Columbia Flood Prevention Act of 2021. The bill would amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA) to include the nation's capital in the definition of "coastal state." Senator TOM CARPER, the Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, has introduced the companion bill in the Senate. Our bill would correct an apparent oversight in the omission of the District of Columbia from the CZMA by making the District eligible to receive federal funding and oversight for federally issued permits, facilities and actions that affect our coastal waters. The District urgently needs the protection of the CZMA because of serious flood risks that currently affect federal assets, residents and businesses, including the National Mall and the cluster of downtown federal agencies.

Congress has authorized a number of programs to help states and territories respond to floods and mitigate risk through resiliency projects. An effort to reduce coastal flood risk, the CZMA provides planning and technical services to assist states in protecting, restoring and developing coastal communities and resources. Once the federal government approves a state's coastal management plan, the state becomes eligible for grants. Federal actions must be consistent with the state plans and vice versa.

Even though the District, including the federal complex, is located on two rivers, and has suffered substantial coastal floods in the past, it was omitted from the list of eligible states and territories in the CZMA. It is notable that

under Section 304 of the CZMA, "coastal state[s]" include the states and U.S. territories (Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands and American Samoa). Because territories are included in the definition of "coastal states" while D.C. is absent, it appears that D.C.'s omission is a mistake, which only Congress can correct. This oversight likely occurred because the CZMA was passed in 1972, which was before the District achieved home rule.

Scientists have predicted that the tides on the Atlantic Coast could rise two to four feet by the year 2100, causing property worth as much as \$7 billion in the District to be routinely under threat by floodwaters. This damage includes private homes and businesses and the National Mall, federal buildings and three military bases located in the District. The Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, which surround the District, are tidally influenced, part of an "intertidal zone" between high and low maritime tides. In addition, the Maryland and Virginia coastal zones each include the tidal Potomac River, with Maryland's zone ending at the District line.

I initially offered the D.C. Flood Prevention Act in a previous Congress. The bill passed the House as part of the Coastal and Great Lakes Communities Enhancement Act. And again, last month, the House Committee on Natural Resources passed this bill as part of the Ocean-Based Climate Solutions Act of 2021, Chairman RAUL M. GRIJALVA's effort to modernize federal ocean management policy to account for climate change.

The District should be eligible under the CZMA just like the states and territories already listed in the CZMA. I urge support for this bill.

**RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN MICHAEL CARATHERS, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2021 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION**

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor fifteen distinguished military veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District who answered the call to serve their Nation honorably, both in uniform and following their return to civilian life. The recipients of the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation exemplify the time-honored qualities of patriotism, service before self, and bold leadership. Following their time in service, their efforts in our community have earned these fine individuals recognition as the recipients of this prestigious commendation. Their stories of sacrifice will encourage future generations to pursue a life dedicated to the very values we cherish as Americans: faith, freedom, and democracy. One such hero is Captain Michael Carathers of Lucas, Texas.

Originally from Amarillo, Texas, Captain Michael Carathers enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserves in 1967, after which time he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Texas Tech University. Along the

way he would serve as a division petty officer at NAVCOMSTA Lululei Hawaii providing communications from the U.S. mainland to Vietnam and recovery communications for the Apollo program for NASA. Following a direct commission as an Engineering Duty Officer, he would perform a variety of duties on the USS *Bataan* and USS *Blue Ridge*. Captain Carathers would go on to command two reserve units and serve as the Executive Officer for two additional units.

Due to his dedicated service, Captain Carathers earned the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, Navy Reserve Meritorious Medal, National Defense Services Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and Global War on Terrorism Medal, as well as various unit awards.

Following his military career, Mike was employed as a Principal Systems Engineer on military programs for Raytheon from which he retired in 2011. Captain Carathers would go on to serve on the Reserve Officers Association Board of Directors for the local chapter and was selected as Texas Department President and Vice President. His commitment to our military and veterans is strongly evidenced by his role as Committee Chairman for the North Texas Military Foundation Ball where his advocacy efforts have generated tremendous support for our active duty, reserve, and retired military members and veterans.

Captain Carathers and his wife, Cheryl, have three children and six grandchildren with whom they have instilled a sense of service before self. His deep passion for serving our military community with a patriotic and unwavering heart is to be commended as he continues to display servant leadership.

Today a grateful Nation thanks Captain Carathers for his exceptional service and congratulates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

**RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

**HON. ED CASE**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. CASE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month and to share our collective recommitment to end domestic violence.

Each October, we remember all those lost to and scarred by domestic violence, a tragic continuing scourge that cuts across all boundaries. Long after we have said goodbyes, long after physical wounds have healed, the psychological and social consequences continue and magnify. Domestic violence truly touches each and all of us.

Tragically, COVID-19 has magnified this challenge. In my home state of Hawaii, the Domestic Violence Action Center saw hotline calls increase by 188 percent from February 2020 to 2021. Survivors are further cut off from activities that allow them to escape an abusive environment, such as work or school, and domestic violence organizations face challenges in reaching survivors or providing services.

I am incredibly grateful for the service of the domestic violence organizations in my Hawaii, such as the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the some twenty other domestic violence organizations that provide services to survivors and their families, along with each and all of their dedicated workers and volunteers. I am also grateful for our local first responders and law enforcement, who have taken actions to better equip themselves to recognize and respond to domestic violence.

There is so much work to be done still in raising awareness and educating our communities about domestic violence. But for now, for anyone experiencing, witnessing or suspecting domestic violence, please call or text a local or national helpline. They are not alone.

Mahala and aloha.

DR. JOSEPH RAMOS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Joseph Ramos for earning the City of Northglenn's Investment Award.

The Investment Award is given to a business that has made significant investments in the past year. Dr. Ramos, a local personal injury lawyer and emergency room doctor, is this year's recipient for his work to take care of his local community during the COVID-19 pandemic. During his medical career, he found that he could care for people to a greater extent by also becoming a lawyer. His expertise in both legal and medical sciences, Dr. Ramos has become one of the most effective personal injury attorneys in our community, helping people receive the best possible medical care possible while ensuring insurance companies pay fairly.

Dr. Ramos's devotion to our community is commendable. Congratulations to Dr. Joseph Ramos on this achievement and I thank him for his contribution to our community.

RECOGNIZING J.D. GROM'S SERVICE TO THE NEW DEMOCRAT COALITION

**HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Ms. DELBENE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of J.D. Grom, the longest-serving Executive Director of the New Democrat Coalition.

J.D. departs Capitol Hill this month to continue his federal service as an appointee in the Biden Administration, but he leaves behind a legacy of sound management and strong leadership that will serve the Coalition for years to come.

NewDems occupy an important place within the Democratic Caucus. We are the center of gravity for the House Democrats and an incubator for some of the best, most forward-leaning policy-making on Capitol Hill.

None of that happened by accident. J.D. led the NewDems with a steady hand and a strategic vision that positioned the Members of this Coalition to make real, substantive, and lasting imprints on the legislative output in the House of Representatives.

Under J.D.'s leadership, NewDems were firmly at the center of the work to shape this 21st century economy. Whether speaking out on trade or the ever-evolving future of work in America, NewDems delivered meaningful policy prescriptions and helped put kitchen-table issues front and center for this institution.

NewDems are known for working across ideologies and party lines to deliver results. But more than that, we've also become a home for thoughtful, measured leaders who have had enough of the shouting and division that too often defines our politics.

J.D. embodied that NewDem spirit as a selfless leader and mentor throughout his career. That includes his work on behalf of his hometown Representative, Melissa Bean of Illinois, his work at the Department of the Treasury, and service on behalf of four separate Chairs of the New Democrat Coalition, including me, Rep. RON KIND, Rep. JIM HIMES, and Rep. DEREK KILMER.

On behalf of our entire 95-Member Coalition, I thank J.D. for his service, both past and future, and wish him all the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I would have voted YEA for Roll Call number 338, S. 1511—Protecting America's First Responders Act of 2021, had I been present.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE YEMENI AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**HON. RASHIDA TLAIB**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Yemeni American Chamber of Commerce (YACC) for their work on behalf of the Yemeni American small business community in southeastern Michigan.

Over thirty thousand Yemeni Americans live in Michigan, with a significant number residing in Wayne County. Many Yemeni immigrants were drawn to the area by work in automotive factories and have established their roots here. Immigration to Michigan is still occurring, with some studies indicating that Yemenis comprise nine percent of the area's Arab population and that Yemeni community have some of the largest families. However, the Yemeni community has some of the lowest rate of business ownership, only three percent compared to twenty percent for other Arab groups.

This is why YACC is critical to our community. YACC has established a strong network for the small business community. They encourage growth through education and train-

ing, as well as collaboration among its member businesses. Beyond that, YACC works to create business owners who are also community leaders. They encourage their members to become actively engaged community partners who are truly the backbone of the local economy.

Please join me in recognizing the many outstanding contributions of the Yemeni American Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the communities of Wayne County and southeastern Michigan.

M2 (M-SQUARED) CONFECTIONS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize M2 (m-squared) Confections of Northglenn, Colorado for earning the City of Northglenn's Home-Based Business of the Year Award.

This award recognizes a home-based business that has positively contributed to the community in a meaningful way. As a producer of fine chocolates and candies headed by Kendall and Jonathan Matthews, the business is dedicated to producing high-quality desserts with ingredients sourced according to ethical and sustainable standards. The owners offer world-class expertise, with many years of experience between them. Their dedication and commitment to their craft is reflected by the high caliber of their confections and the impact of their business can be felt throughout the City of Northglenn.

Congratulations again to M2 Confections for this accomplishment and I wish them all the best in the future. I thank them for their contribution to our community.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF PETTY OFFICER RICHARD LERMA, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2021 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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In 1964, upon entering the U.S. Navy and completing basic training, Richard Lerma was

assigned to operations in the Gulf of Tonkin aboard the USS *Cimarron*. As a communications specialist, he was responsible for directing replenishment activities including dealing with classified cargo supplies for aircraft carriers and their escorts. Following two tours of duty in Vietnam, Richard served on assignments with SEAL Team 119 and ultimately retired in 1986.

Chief Petty Officer Lerma earned the National Defense Service Medal, 20 Year Good Conduct Medal, Navy Sharpshooter w/E, Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation Badge, and numerous unit awards and service ribbons.

Following service, Richard attended the San Diego Academy and was later appointed to the Federal Law Enforcement Academy. His role would lead him to an assignment at the International Border and a promotion to a K-9 Narcotic Enforcement Officer dealing with international smugglers, human traffickers, and undercover operations with various federal agencies. Following 9/11, Lerma was transferred to Customs and Border Protection where he would work until his retirement in 2014.

Mr. Lerma has earned a reputation as a respected member of our local veterans community and has worked tirelessly to assist veterans with education and relief programs. Richard is an active member of Vietnam Veterans of America, the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Collin County Veterans Coalition. He also dedicates his time to assisting with two prison ministries where he visits incarcerated military inmates who have lost their way. Richard Lerma has led a tremendous life of service to our county and is to be commended for his many efforts.

Today a grateful Nation thanks Chief Petty Officer Lerma for his exceptional service and congratulates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT  
OF SERGEANT GINGER  
GERSBACHER

**HON. JOHN KATKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the career of Senior Master Sergeant D. Ginger Gersbacher, who retired from the United States Air Force (USAF) on July 29, 2021 after more than 29 years of military service.

A native of Central New York and graduate of C.W. Baker High School and the State University of New York at Morrisville, Sergeant Gersbacher enlisted into the New York Air National Guard in June 1992. After completing basic training as well as technical school training as an Instrument and Flight Control Systems Specialist, she returned to Syracuse in January 1993 to serve in the 174th Attack Wing. Within the unit, Sergeant Gersbacher served as an Avionics Technician with the Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, and later accept-

ed a part time position in the Maintenance Operations Center. While serving in these positions, Sergeant Gersbacher also returned to school to complete a Baccalaureate Degree in Computer Science from Columbia College, graduating Summa Cum Laude.

Later, Sergeant Gersbacher was deployed and supported combat missions, participating in Operation Provide Comfort, Operation Northern Watch, and Operation Southern Watch. Following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, she volunteered for active duty and served with the 174th Attack Wing of the New York Air National Guard during Operation Noble Eagle, flying air patrol missions over New York City. Later, Sergeant Gersbacher reassigned as a maintenance analyst and was deployed three more times from 2006 to 2008, participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom. In 2014, Sergeant Gersbacher established the Inspector General Office of Inspections within the 174th Attack Wing at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base, and maintained her position in the Inspector General's Office until her retirement.

For her service, Sergeant Gersbacher has earned numerous awards including the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, and the Air Force Achievement Medal.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in recognizing Senior Master Sergeant Ginger Gersbacher for her nearly three decades of honorable service. I wish Sergeant Gersbacher the best in her retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RAYMOND  
MATTZ

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the life of Raymond Mattz, who passed away at the age of 79 on September 2, 2021. Raymond was a revered elder of the Yurok Tribe who fought for his people's fishing rights and their reservation, including in a landmark case before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Raymond grew up in Requa, at the mouth of the Klamath River. Though his Yurok ancestors had signed a treaty with the U.S. government in 1855, it was not ratified, which led the state of California to open the Yurok Reservation to white settlement in 1892. This meant tribal fishermen had to obtain permits to fish, which severely limited the catch that the Yurok people had depended on since time immemorial. After being cited by a game warden for fishing, Raymond contested his case in state court, and then finally in the U.S. Supreme Court in 1973.

The Supreme Court overturned California's assertion that the reservation was no longer Yurok country. Following the ruling, the state turned jurisdiction of the reservation to the federal government, which banned fishing outright and led to the salmon wars of 1978. Raymond was a leader among fishermen who continued to fish despite being targets of federal agents who often violently accosted them and confiscated gear. His efforts helped lead to the establishment of the Yurok Tribe's fishing

rights on the Klamath River. Raymond also served on the Yurok Tribal Council and was a member of the Yurok Cultural and Natural Resources committees.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you join me in extending condolences to Raymond's family, friends, and tribe; and in expressing our deep appreciation for his decades of contribution to tribal rights and the Yurok Tribe.

ALTHAUS LAW

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Althaus Law of Northglenn, Colorado for earning the City of Northglenn's Small Business of the Year Award.

The Small Business of the Year Award recognizes a local business with up to twenty employees that had an outstanding year of business and leadership in the community. Althaus Law, led by founder Jeff Althaus, is dedicated to estate law in Colorado, helping countless families plan for their future through real estate investing. With an emphasis on giving back to the community, Althaus Law is an engaged and valued small business in Northglenn.

Congratulations to Althaus Law for receiving this award and I wish them all the best in the future. I thank them for their contribution to our community.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT  
CHARLES "CHUCK" DANIELS, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2021 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor fifteen distinguished military veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District who answered the call to serve their Nation honorably, both in uniform and following their return to civilian life. The recipients of the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation exemplify the time-honored qualities of patriotism, service before self, and bold leadership. Following their time in service, their efforts in our community have earned these fine individuals recognition as the recipients of this prestigious commendation. Their stories of sacrifice will encourage future generations to pursue a life dedicated to the very values we cherish as Americans: faith, freedom, and democracy. One such hero is Lieutenant Charles "Chuck" Daniels of Allen, Texas.

Lieutenant Daniels faithfully served our nation in the United States Navy from 1979 to 1984. His selfless service included support for American actions during the Iran Hostage Crisis.

For his efforts, Lieutenant Daniels was awarded the Sea Service Ribbon, Humanitarian Service Ribbon, and the Navy Expeditionary Medal.

In his post-military career, Daniels was an indispensable asset for program development and direction with Raytheon Defense Systems where he dealt with top secret programs centered on radar systems technology.

As a tireless advocate for our veterans and military, Lieutenant Daniels has become a known leader in the Dallas Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW), where he has assumed a variety of roles including Junior Vice Commander, Senior Vice Commander, and as the current Commander. Never one to seek recognition, Chuck is often behind the scenes working on such initiatives including the Dallas Veterans Day Parade, Dallas Community Police Awards, and the Boy and Girl Scout Leadership Awards. As a direct result of his efforts, this year MOWW has been designated as the best large chapter, an international designation of which the organization is justifiably proud. Due to his leadership, Chuck was awarded the coveted MOWW Gold Patrick Henry Medal. Lieutenant Daniels continually strives to exhibit service before self within our veterans community, making an indelible impression on those around him. For his efforts, we give him our unwavering gratitude.

Today a grateful Nation thanks Lieutenant Daniels for his exceptional service and congratulates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BOROUGH  
OF SAYREVILLE, NEW JERSEY

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Borough of Sayreville, New Jersey as it formally celebrates its centennial this year, after marking its 100th anniversary in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is my honor to join with borough officials and residents in commemorating this significant milestone.

Although established as a township in 1876 after breaking away from South Amboy, Sayreville was incorporated as a borough in 1920. Following Sayre and Fisher Company's establishment of a post office in 1860, the name Sayreville became the commonly used term to reference the area.

With its rich clay deposits and shoreline proximity to New York City, pottery and brick manufacturing was the backbone of the area's early industrialization. The Sayre and Fisher Brick Company, operating from 1850 to 1969, was one of the state's largest employers and supported the rapid growth of the community, from less than 2,000 residents in 1876, to over 32,500 by the end of the 1960s. Materials made in Sayreville not only helped construct buildings throughout town, they were also used in the construction of the Empire State Building and Holland Tunnel.

In 1968, Sayreville elected Peggy Kerr as Mayor, who proudly served as the first woman to hold the position in Sayreville's history. In its centennial, the borough is governed by

Mayor Victoria Kilpatrick, Council President Kevin Dalina, and council members Vincent Conti, Damon Enriquez, Michele Maher, Mary Novak and Donna Roberts.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in marking the 100th anniversary of the Borough of Sayreville and celebrating its rich history.

HONORING THE LAUNCH OF  
MAJOR LEAGUE PICKLEBALL

**HON. ROGER WILLIAMS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the launch of the inaugural season of Major League Pickleball (MLP) on November 5, 2021. I'm proud to say that MLP's Season One will take place in Texas' 25th Congressional District at Dreamland in Dripping Springs, Texas, and it will feature eight MLP teams led by an accomplished list of owners:

Discovery Warriors: Eric Kuo and Mike Meldman

Pickle Ranchers: Bryan Sheffield and Tim Klitch

Team Clean: West Hunt, Tim Berry and Navdeep Sooch

Team Rally: John Raymond and Jim Toth  
ATX Pickballers: Brene Brown, Steve Alley and Charles Kiley

The Lions: Marc Lasry and James Blake  
Chimeras: Charles Attal and Charlie Walker  
Team BLQK: Richie Tuazon

MLP will feature the world's best female and male professional pickleball players, competing in a unique format for the Pritchard Cup, named after the late U.S. Representative Joel Pritchard of Washington State, the inventor of pickleball.

The new league has two stated aims—to create a platform to showcase the world's best professional pickleball players to pickleball fans worldwide; and to attract new people to pickleball. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in America and already enjoyed by over 4 million regular players, according to The Economist.

MLP is the brainchild of Steve Kuhn, a noted business leader and entrepreneur whose passion and love of pickleball inspired him to found MLP in 2021. Kuhn's goal is to spread pickleball as widely as possible to ensure children and adults from all walks of life will be able to play.

I would like to express my support for the launch of the newly created Major League Pickleball and I wish them well in their inaugural season.

THANKING WHITNEY TEMPEL FOR  
HER SERVICE TO KANSAS

**HON. JAKE LaTURNER**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. LATURNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank a member of my staff for her tireless service to my district and our state. Whitney Tempel began her time working for

the constituents of the Kansas Second Congressional District as an intern in 2017, and joined my team as a district representative when I was first sworn in.

Each and every day, Whitney advocates for my constituents in every aspect of her job from grant applications to passport requests. Just this summer, I know that lives were saved in Afghanistan because of Whitney's perseverance and diligence in securing safe travel out of Kabul. This week is Whitney's last with my office, and while we are sad to lose her, I will always be grateful for her work and look forward to seeing the great things she has in store.

METRO BROKERS NORTH METRO  
OF NORTHGLENN

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Metro Brokers North Metro of Northglenn, Colorado for receiving the City of Northglenn Business of the Year Award in Longevity.

Metro Brokers North Metro is a full-service real estate house dedicated to helping buyers, sellers, commercial tenants, landlords, and investors manage their profits. Their team of knowledgeable and dedicated agents gives their clients a host of valuable information, leading to better decisions and an accurate understanding of their assets. This commitment to providing quality service has distinguished this business for many years, over which they have built a thriving organization that seeks to provide the best possible service.

It is my honor to extend my thanks to Metro Brokers North Metro for their superb business that has truly stood the test of time. Real estate is an industry that can be easily abused if led by the wrong people, but this team has consistently demonstrated their honesty, celerity, and transparency when it comes to assisting their clients. The community at Northglenn applauds their service and anticipates their business for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING NAVY SEAL RYAN  
PARROTT, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS'  
THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DIS-  
TRICT 2021 CONGRESSIONAL VET-  
ERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor fifteen distinguished military veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District who answered the call to serve their Nation honorably, both in uniform and following their return to civilian life. The recipients of the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation exemplify the time-honored qualities of patriotism, service before self, and bold leadership. Following their time in service, their efforts in our community have earned these fine individuals recognition as the recipients of this prestigious commendation. Their

stories of sacrifice will encourage future generations to pursue a life dedicated to the very values we cherish as Americans: faith, freedom, and democracy. One such hero is Navy Seal Ryan Parrott of Allen, Texas.

Originally from Detroit, Michigan, Ryan "Birdman" Parrott enlisted in the U.S. Navy after watching the Twin Towers fall on September 11, 2001. Ryan served eight years as a Navy SEAL, attached to Team Seven. During his time in service, he completed three combat tours in Iraq prior to being assigned to Advanced Training Command as an instructor. In 2005, his life would forever change. While manning a gun turret of a Humvee in enemy territory, his vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device. Parrott was thrown from the vehicle and along with his teammates, suffered devastating burns and a long road to recovery.

For his actions, Parrott was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal w/Combat "V", Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Army and Navy Commendation Medals, and a Purple Heart.

After his discharge, Ryan moved to Dallas and after connecting with other veterans who suffered similar injuries, he established Sons of the Flag in order to support those in the military community, first responders, and civilians suffering from traumatic burns. Under his leadership, the organization has raised more than \$5 million to assist burn victims and provide medical fellowships to facilitate research, development, and treatment. Ryan is also the Founder of the Bird's Eye View Project which leverages extreme sports to raise awareness for the extreme needs of veterans and first responders.

Ryan and his wife, Vlada, are the proud parents of two sons named after the couple's grandfathers, who also served in the military. Navy SEAL Ryan "Birdman" Parrott is a shining example of how he has used adversity to serve the community, particularly those who have experienced life altering injuries, as he empower others to lead a life on mission.

Today a grateful Nation thanks Mr. Parrott for his exceptional service and congratulates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS NATIONAL WOMEN'S SMALL BUSINESS MONTH

**HON. BRENDA L. LAWRENCE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the month of October as National Women's Small Business Month and recognize the accomplishments and impact of our women entrepreneurs and business owners across the country.

While women-owned businesses have faced setbacks due to the pandemic, they remain the fastest growing segment of our economy.

Black and Brown women entrepreneurs are the main drivers of this growth, even though they are far more likely to also be the primary breadwinners and caregivers for their families. We must continue to invest in and support women business owners, especially Black and Brown women business owners, as we begin our economic recovery.

I also want to recognize the 136 Women Business Centers nationwide, such as the Great Lakes Women's Business Council which has done so much to support women-owned small businesses in my home state of Michigan. In addition, I want to recognize the U.S. Small Business Administration, which has continued to provide resources to women-owned businesses in their 68 district offices. My district is fortunate to host the U.S. Small Business Administration's Michigan district office. Businesses that have received support from these institutions are far more likely to succeed, and when women succeed, America succeeds.

As we mark National Women's Small Business Month, on behalf of the United States of America, I salute all the women business owners and women entrepreneurs for their vital contributions to our country.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MR. JAMES CHARLIE LANE

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and service of Mr. James Charlie Lane of White Pine, Tennessee. J.C. was born on April 30, 1920 and celebrated his 101st birthday on April 30, 2021.

He was a Veteran of WWII and served in the Navy from March 1941 to August 1946. From 1940 to March 1941, he was an employee of the Civilian Conservation Corps in both Unicoi and the Sugarlands in his birth county, Sevier County.

He volunteered and joined the Navy in March 1941 and was assigned to the USS *Albatross*, where he would qualify as an electrician and would eventually be promoted to electrician first class. Volunteering for a new ship that was commissioned, he became a "plank owner" on the *Wasp* by being one of the original crewmen. By 1944, the *Wasp's* battles would include the islands of Marcus, Wake, Saipan, Tinian, Guam, Iwo Jima, Okinawa, Leyte Gulf and the Japanese homeland. He arrived in Hawaii and then went to the Marshall Islands in May and saw his first action in the Marshall Islands as part of Admiral Halsey's fast carrier fleet at the Marianas. During his time in the Navy, he saw action in the European Theater, to the African Coast, to the Pacific Theater in the Philippines and the five-week long battle for Iwo Jima. His military service went on until almost a year after Armistice Day when Japan formally surrendered as his ship brought soldiers back from Italy and England. He retired as a Chief Petty Officer.

Upon returning to Tennessee, he settled in Sevier County for a short period, then upon getting a job at American Enka, he moved to White Pine in 1951. He retired from American Enka after thirty-six years.

J.C.'s legacy of love includes his marriage to his wife, Ruth, of forty-nine years until she passed in July 1992, and his children who are so proud of his service, Rita Lane Potter, and Betty Jo Lane Moore. He has three grandchildren and four great grandsons.

Madam Speaker, James Charles Lane faithfully served his country under the most difficult situations possible and as a WWII Veteran and member of the United States Navy, and I proudly honor his legacy and service to the United States of America.

HONORING WWII VET NORVIN D. MCCLURE

**HON. JIM BANKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Norvin D. McClure of Fort Wayne.

Our Nation owes Norvin a tremendous debt of gratitude for his service to our country in the United States Army during World War II. Serving in an Engineer Combat Battalion in the European Theatre, his sacrifices were critical to the defense of our homeland, of Europe and to the security and prosperity of millions.

Most notably, Norvin's service earned him the French Legion of Honor award, the highest distinction awarded by France. Established by Napoleon in 1804, the Legion of Honor, known as *Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur*, is awarded only to the most exceptional of soldiers who served in defense of the French Republic. As a combat engineer, Norvin was charged with one of the most perilous tasks of any soldier during the war: removing mines and booby traps left behind by a retreating fanatical Wehrmacht. But for Norvin and his heroic actions, many more Americans would have been killed and the Allied advance across Western Europe would have been even more difficult and deadly than it was.

Norvin's unit continued into Germany, and then Austria, where it remained involved in combat operations until the end of the war in Europe in May 1945. Norvin returned to Indiana, raised five children with his wife, Maryann, and became a Locomotive Engineer, a job he had for 44 years. I'm proud to extend my regards to him. On behalf of Congress, let me say: we hope Norvin's heart is filled with joy knowing he has experienced our country's greatest blessings, including the affection of family, friends, and a grateful Nation, over a long and well-lived life.

May God Bless Norvin, and may God Bless the United States.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOHN CAMPBELL, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2021 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor fifteen distinguished military veterans from Texas' Third Congressional

District who answered the call to serve their Nation honorably, both in uniform and following their return to civilian life. The recipients of the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation exemplify the time-honored qualities of patriotism, service before self, and bold leadership. Following their time in service, their efforts in our community have earned these fine individuals recognition as the recipients of this prestigious commendation. Their stories of sacrifice will encourage future generations to pursue a life dedicated to the very values we cherish as Americans: faith, freedom, and democracy. One such hero is Lieutenant General John Campbell of McKinney, Texas.

A native of Henderson, Kentucky, Lieutenant General John Campbell was commissioned through the Air Force ROTC in 1969 while at the University of Kentucky. For the next three decades, Campbell served with distinction in unique assignments which took him all over the world, including serving as the first F-15 instructor pilot with the Royal Saudi Air Force, as the Commander of the 57th Fighter Interceptor Squadron based at Keflavik Naval Air Station in Iceland, and as the Commander of the 31st Fighter Wing, Aviano Air Base, Italy during Operation DENY FLIGHT, the air policing of the Balkans. While serving in the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Campbell was appointed as the first Commander of what later became known as the U.S. Cyber Command. In 2000, he would assume his final military assignment, serving as the Associate Director of Central Intelligence for the CIA at Langley where he was credited with the development of one of the most effective counterterrorism programs in government.

General Campbell earned numerous military and intelligence community awards, including the Defense Distinguished Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Air Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, Combat Readiness Medal with oak leaf cluster, NATO Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, and the CIA's Distinguished Intelligence Medal, to name just a few.

In 2012, General Campbell, or "Soup" as he is widely known by, and his wife of fifty years, Marky, relocated to McKinney. Campbell wasted no time in forming deep roots within the community, holding positions as the President of the Air Force Association, Board of Directors for Smiles Charity, director of the veterans ministry in his church, and serving within his homeowners association. John and Murky are the proud parents to three children, Rachel, Elizabeth and Matthew, as well as five grandchildren. General Campbell is the epitome of a servant leader who has used his many experiences to the betterment of his fellow man.

Today a grateful Nation thanks Lieutenant General Campbell for his exceptional service and congratulates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

#### TECHNIQUES LLC

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Techniques LLC for earning the City of Northglenn's Large Business of the Year Award.

The Large Business of the Year Award is given to a large business that has made outstanding contributions for the betterment of the community. Since the 1970's, Techniques has been an esteemed provider of high precision machined components and assemblies, serving industries ranging from aerospace to dental. With decades of experience and a loyal clientele, Techniques is known for exceeding expectations and needs.

Congratulations to Techniques LLC for receiving this award and I wish them all the best in the future. I thank them for their contribution to our community.

#### CELEBRATING FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

### HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. CASE. Madam Speaker, each year our country recognizes October as Filipino American History Month, a time for all Americans to celebrate the incredible past, present and future of our fellow citizens whose heritage lies in the great country of the Philippines.

I am especially humbled to do so as the Representative of Hawaii's First Congressional District, where some 195,000 Filipino Americans live, more than any other of our 435 districts throughout the country. With Hawaii's Second Congressional District with the second largest Filipino Americans population, at about 175,000, our Fil-Am community in Hawaii stands at 370,000. In total, fully a quarter of all Hawaii residents are Filipino Americans, by far the largest percentage of any state or territory.

We observe Filipino American History Month in October because the first recorded arrival of Filipinos in the continental United States took place on October 18, 1587, when the "Luzones Indios" came ashore from the Manila-built galleon Nuestra Señora de Esperanza in Morro Bay, California. And in 1906, 115 years ago, the first fifteen sakada (contract laborers) arrived in Honolulu from the Philippines aboard the SS Doric, marking the first sustained immigration into our country and the humble beginnings of Fil-Ams in Hawaii. Today our Fil-Am community numbers some four million throughout our country, now the second largest of our Asian American groups.

Hawaii Fil-Ams in particular have been trailblazers in politics and government, the military, business and entrepreneurship, journalism, popular culture, music and the arts and more.

Peter Aduja became the first Fil-Am elected to public office in the United States when he was elected to the Hawaii Territorial House of Representatives in 1954.

Alfred Laureta became the first-ever federal judge of Filipino ancestry. He was born in

'Ewa, graduated from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and was later nominated and confirmed by our own Senator Daniel Inouye in July 1978.

Benjamin Menor became the first Fil-Am higher court judge as associate justice of the Hawaii State Supreme Court.

Ben Cayetano was the first Filipino American governor of a state in our union.

Major General Antonio Taguba was the second Filipino American promoted to general officer rank in the United States Army.

Eddie Flores Jr. bought the first L&L Drive-Inn on Liliha Street in Honolulu in 1976, turning it into a national franchise.

Carolina Dizon Wong was the first Filipino American woman to obtain an M.D. degree.

Ines Cayaban was the first Filipino American graduate of the School of Public Health, Nursing and Social Work at the University of Hawaii. She received the prestigious Jefferson Award in 1986 for her service to Hawaii.

Francisco Flores Trinidad Jr., of Honolulu, better known by his pen name "Corky," was an award-winning editorial cartoonist of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin who became the first Asian editorial cartoonist syndicated in the U.S.

A loyal veteran of the 1st Filipino Infantry Regiment that fought alongside our troops in the Philippines during World War II, Domingo Los Banos was Hawaii's first Filipino American school principal.

Roy Macaraeg became the first Fil-Am to become a general officer in the history of Hawaii's citizen soldier ranks.

In Hawaii, we also regularly honor the over 250,000 Filipinos who answered the call to protect and defend America and the Philippines in the Pacific theater. In 2016, President Obama signed into law the Filipino Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act to bestow Congress's highest honor upon those veterans.

Each and all of these lives of achievement are but a small sampling of a broader community that has achieved so much and contributed so much to the rich fabric of our country. And the story of Filipino Americans is still in its early chapters.

Why, however, is it important that we take the time to recognize groups like Filipino Americans? To that, I respond that the story of Filipino Americans, and to an extent, the stories of all of our various ethnic groups, is the story of America. From very humble beginnings, they have risen through hard work, sacrifice, commitment to advancing the next generations and mutual support to achieve so much already. That well describes Filipino Americans overall, that and embracing the responsibilities and opportunities of America while honoring and treasuring the rich heritage of their ancestral homeland.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen the ways that Asian Americans, including Filipino Americans, have been disproportionately affected by health and social situations. Filipino American nurses, despite making up just 4 percent of the nurse workforce, have accounted for about 25 percent of COVID-19 related deaths among all nurses. This is telling sign of the sacrifices they are making for our country.

Sadly, this community is not receiving the respect it deserves and facing senseless discrimination. As of August of this year, more than 9,000 Anti-Asian incidents have been reported since the pandemic began, with many

being Filipino America. All of us must work to stop this hatred.

And yet, as always, we have seen a resilient community persevere through all. In my own district, I have joined my friends for community clean up days at the Filipino Community Center to help protect and promote their heritage. With my colleagues in the House, I have reintroduced our Filipino Veterans Family Reunification Act, which seeks to reunite Filipino soldiers with their children.

All of this is why I recently joined my friend and colleague Congresswoman YOUNG KIM in introducing H. Res. 724, a bipartisan resolution to express support for the designation of October as Filipino American History Month. We urge our colleagues' support to promote an ongoing appreciation of the contributions of Filipino Americans to our country and the rich diversity of our Nation.

To Fil-Ams everywhere, Maraming Salamat Po and Dios Ti Agngina, congratulations. I truly look forward to partnering with them on their next proud chapters.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. AGATHA  
SHORTER-LEWIS

HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the life of Mrs. Agatha Shorter-Lewis, a member of CA-24's NAACP Branch. Mrs. Shorter-Lewis has been described as "a social justice, human and civil rights champion," because of her hard work fighting for equal rights throughout the Central Coast. Agatha Noel Shorter-Lewis was born in Los Angeles, California on September 7, 1950, to Leon and Martha Shorter. As a young woman, she studied at a community college in the Los Angeles area, transferred to the University of California, Santa Barbara and earned a bachelor's degree in sociology in 1975.

In 1973, Mrs. Shorter-Lewis began volunteering with Santa Barbara County Probation Department, interned with them in 1974 and in 1975 at the age of 24, she took the test for Deputy Probation Officer II and scored 1#. On January 20, 1976, Mrs. Shorter-Lewis was sworn in as the first Black female Deputy Probation Officer hired by Santa Barbara County. Her first assignment was working with Juveniles.

In an April 2001, Santa Maria Times newspaper article, Mrs. Shorter-Lewis recounted her time at the Probation Department noting one case stands out: "A boy, who just wouldn't go to school and was giving his parents, school administrators and teachers chaos. She told him, 'Listen, if you don't get up and go to school on time, I'm going to have to get there to your house and when you turn over, I'm going to be in bed with you, because I told you to get up and go to school.'" The young man thought she was playing with him and wasn't going to do it. Early one morning his mom called saying he wouldn't get out of bed. She told his mom "I'm on my way" and when she arrived at the house, she told the mom "don't wake him up anymore, begging him to go to school" and eased up in bed with him. When he turned over, he said "Oh, Oh,

Miss Shorter, Miss Shorter, I'm going to school, I'm going to school." She said, "sure you are going to school because I'm going to wait right here until you get up." She drove the boy to school that day and his mother never had problems with him again.

While at Probation, Mrs. Shorter-Lewis helped countless youth and their families changing their lives through dedication and caring while providing structure to help them reach their full potential. Mrs. Shorter-Lewis served the last 8 years with the department in the Adult Investigation Unit, investigating felony offenses, and determining whether or not to grant probation. She represented Probation in Court once a week as a Hearing Officer in Judge Rogelio Flores courtroom.

Mrs. Shorter-Lewis served 27 years as Deputy Probation Officer, retiring on April 27, 2001, due to health issues.

Mrs. Shorter-Lewis married Rev. Henry Littleton Lewis, Jr. on January 16, 1993. Their wedding was the biggest wedding event in Santa Maria, with 25 bridesmaids many of whom were Judges, attorneys, and Probation Officers and more than 1,000 guests in attendance. One of her biggest joys was on September 12, 2013, when Rev. Lewis became Pastor of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church and she became First Lady of the church, a position she absolutely treasured. She was an active church member, and in her own words she served in every office of the church but "Pastor!" In addition to First Lady, at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, she served in the capacity of Church Clerk, Sunday School Teacher, Women's Ministry President, Program Committee Chair, and Women's Choir. She was also active with Coast Counties District Association serving as local president, District President, Minister's Wives Chairperson, and on various activity planning committees. At the State Baptist level, she was Vice-President of the Women's Department, Chair of Advisory Council of past Presidents, Serendipity Speaker and Teacher. At the National Baptist level, she was a delegate representing California State Baptist many times, Queen candidate for the Women's Department under Women's President Sister Alma Tate. With Rev. Lewis untimely death on September 13, 2013, Mrs. Shorter-Lewis First Lady position ended; however, she remained an active leader and member of the church.

In addition to church, Mrs. Lewis was very active in the community. After being sworn in as a Deputy Probation Officer, Mrs. Shorter-Lewis moved to Santa Maria. Once in Santa Maria, she tried renting a home, but each time would be denied when she showed up and the owner saw she was African American. She did not let blatant racism deter her instead renting an apartment for two years and then becoming a homeowner before age 30. She was a lifetime/lifelong member of the National Association For the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and made history again as the Santa Maria-Lompoc Branch second President in 1981 at the age of 31. Under her presidency the Branch's annual professional fashion show was born, an event that allowed the community to come out, get dressed up, enjoy dinner and the latest fashions from all over the world while supporting the Branch and the Branch's Scholarship recipients. Since its inception, the annual Fashion Show has awarded hundreds of scholarships to underserved youth to attend college and it continues 37

years later. When Mrs. Shorter-Lewis's presidency ended in 1984, she continued her advocacy serving as first vice-president from 1985 to 1988, second vice president from 1989 to 1990, on the Executive Committee from 1991 to 2018, and as Executive Committee Emeritus from 2019 to her untimely death on October 5, 2021. In each role, she was always a Drum Major for Justice answering every call she was asked to do.

Continuing as a trailblazer, Mrs. Shorter-Lewis was a business owner of Almagathai Ladies' Hats & Suits, Men's Ties and Jewelry along with her best friend, Mrs. Alma Tate. Mrs. Shorter-Lewis loved cruises and vacations and celebrated many birthdays on cruise ships including her 30th, 50th and 60th. On one of those cruises, she was crowned the ship's queen. She and Rev. Lewis spent their 20th wedding anniversary in Hawaii.

Mrs. Shorter-Lewis was known by most people, well respected in the community, larger than life, outgoing, family and people oriented, with a bubbly personality, a disarming smile, was a dynamic public speaker, very assertive, compassionate, a good listener able to discern truth. She celebrated many family vacations and reunions, chaired extra-large celebrations for her family and friends including her sister Carolyn's 65th birthday, numerous retirement celebrations for her friends, 75/76th birthday celebration for her friend and arranged for the community to attend the play "The Color Purple" in Los Angeles on a chartered bus.

Over her lifetime, Mrs. Shorter-Lewis, received numerous community awards and recognitions including awards from the Santa Maria-Lompoc Branch, City of Santa Maria, and Vision of Hope, among others.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN JERAN  
AKERS, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS'  
THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DIS-  
TRICT 2021 CONGRESSIONAL VET-  
ERAN COMMENDATION

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor fifteen distinguished military veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District who answered the call to serve their Nation honorably, both in uniform and following their return to civilian life. The recipients of the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation exemplify the time-honored qualities of patriotism, service before self, and bold leadership. Following their time in service, their efforts in our community have earned these fine individuals recognition as the recipients of this prestigious commendation. Their stories of sacrifice will encourage future generations to pursue a life dedicated to the very values we cherish as Americans: faith, freedom, and democracy. One such hero is Captain Jeran Akers of Plano, Texas.

During his time as a student at the University of Alabama, Jeran Akers, would begin his path to defending our nation by serving as a member of the Air Force ROTC and the Arnold Air Society. Later, while on active duty from 1969 to 1973, Captain Akers, would earn a Master of Arts in Public Administration. One of his most notable posts was overseeing one

of our nation's largest stockpiles of missiles at Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota.

Captain Akers' military decorations include the National Defense Service Medal and Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with one Oak Leaf Cluster.

Following his time in service, Akers relocated to Texas where he operated a successful small business. In 1993, he would embark on a new mission following his election to the Plano City Council where he served as both Deputy Mayor Pro Tem and Mayor. During his time as Mayor, he founded the Collin County Mayors' Alliance and was credited with bringing the Dr Pepper headquarters to town.

In 2002, Captain Akers was diagnosed with a lung disease that would eventually result in a double lung transplant. His unique experience generated a new passion for organ donation advocacy and he remains a staunch supporter for the cause. Akers also served in the role of President and CEO of the Celina Chamber of Commerce until his recent retirement. In his personal life, Jeran is the proud father of three children with whom he has instilled a love of country. His eldest son Tyler followed in his father's footsteps by joining the Air Force, and his younger son, Josh, is a fallen Marine. Today, Jeran, and his wife, Victoria, continue spending time in the community and enjoying their five grandchildren. Captain Akers has been a steadfast example of service before self both to his nation and through his dedication to involvement within our local community.

Today a grateful Nation thanks Captain Akers for his exceptional service and congratulates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

#### THE COURTS SPORTS COMPLEX

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Courts Sports Complex of Northglenn, Colorado for receiving the City of Northglenn Investment Award.

The Northglenn Investment award is given to a Northglenn business that has made significant investments to improve their business or in the community. This year, the award is being presented to The Courts Sports Complex. This state-of-the-art, multipurpose sports facility is a welcomed addition to the Northglenn community. It hosts thousands of eager spectators and athletes alike each year. The massive 32,000 square foot complex can host basketball, volleyball, and several other sports to create Colorado's next great athletes.

I would like to extend a personal congratulations to the team over at The Courts Sports Complex for receiving this award. They are certainly deserving of all this recognition and more. I would also like to thank them for being such outstanding leaders in the community, and for helping to bring recreation and jobs to Northglenn. I wish The Courts Sports Complex nothing but the best in the future, as they con-

tinue to be a favorite spot for athletes of all ages.

#### HONORING THE WORLD WAR II, KOREAN WAR, AND VIETNAM WAR VETERANS OF ILLINOIS

### HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Veterans who traveled to Washington, D.C. on October 27, 2021 with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans the opportunity to visit their memorials on The National Mall in Washington, D.C. These memorials were built to honor their courage and service to their country.

The American Veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who traveled here on October 27th answered our nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the European Campaign to the Pacific Asian Theatre to the African Theater, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorials. I am proud to include in the RECORD the names of these men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude.

Franklin Adams, Joseph Addante, George Anel, Charles Battaglia, Martin Behn, Margaret Bernal, Willie Berry, James Frederick Bolender, Charles Balwin, Steven Bravo, Roger R. Brinker, Robert Brown, Frank S. Buday, Jimmy D. Cagle, Ramon N. Calderon, Andrew P. Chengary, Terrance L. Chenore, Daniel Cizek, Glenn Allen Clausel, Jacques William Coakley, James Conaway, Wade Cooper Jr., Joseph Corrigan, Kenneth E. Cramer, Randall Cromwell, Charles F. Cusumano, Marco Dabatic, James Daly, Clement J. Davis, Irving Frank Dewald, Frank Dudek, Sel W. Dunlap Jr., William C. Ouray, John Francis Dwyer Jr., Ansel Howard Eddin, Robert L. Falkenberg, Gordon S. Farrant, Raymond Franco, Raymond Lee Frerichs, Howard A. Fry, David Grauer, Theodore P. Gray, William D. Greenwald, Robert J. Grega, Melvin Hampton, Brent L. Harris, Ralph O. Heatherington, Gerald A. Holcomb, John R. Horner, Richard Kalamir, Ronald Kamykowski, Thomas J. Kelly, Alex Koplinski, Robert Kosciak, Frank Kusbel, Herbert Landy, Jon Lapo, Ronald E. Lefman, David Lindberg, Louis Mack, Michael John Mahoney, William E. Martin, Joseph Mata Jr., Fred V. McClintock, Richard J. Melford, William A. Meloy, Lucian M. Michichic, Joseph F. Milcarek, Francis Raymond Misischia, Norman Moret, Neal E. Morgan, Gary A. Nielsen, Nicholas L. Pappalas, Louis J. Pauly, Juan Peña, Robert G. Peterson, William Francis Pietrowicz, Thaddeus J. Piwowar, Joseph L. Raftery Jr., Robert Reczek, Robert Reger, Joseph Michael Rogers, Steven D. Rogers, Bernard Rosenblum, Robert Wayne Roswold, Harry Sandberg, Robert Sansone, Joseph M. Shone, John Sintich, Michael Siorek, Marvin D. Skidmore, Richard Smerz, Dennis J. Sroka,

Robert Elliott Sussman, Ken Swierczek, Gerald M. Taylor, Thomas Testolin, Daniel Jerome Tomasik, Joseph Vazzana, George Venetis, Roy Joseph Veverka, Terrence Raymond Verderer, Bernard Lee Walat, William Wall, Lawrence Waska, James W. Weinstein, Larry D. Welsh, Edward F. Wicherek, Paul Wilczenski, Johnny L. Williams, DeNorris Williams, William W. Wilson, Gerald M. Wilstein, Thomas Wysocki, Richard E. Zabelski, Thomas S. Zaczekiewicz, Thomas Anthony Zeman, and John Zero.

#### HONORING RABBI NEIL BRIEF

### HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Rabbi Neil Brief's service to Ezra Habonim Niles Township Jewish Congregation and the Skokie, Illinois community. In 1971 Rabbi Brief became the Rabbi for the Congregation, and he became Rabbi Emeritus in 2004.

Rabbi Brief overcame poverty as a child and developed his leadership skills by becoming president of the Brooklyn Brownsville Boys Club and coaching two club championship basketball teams.

He attended New York University and distinguished himself at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion through his study of numerology, which he later adapted to meet the needs of his congregants. He worked throughout his higher education, as a waiter, busboy, camp counselor and teaching religious school. He then served his country as an Army Chaplain, counseling soldiers of all faiths and rising to the rank of Captain within two years.

Rabbi Brief helped bring people together. He brought Skokie's clergy closer together through spearheading the creation of and serving as president of the Niles Township Clergy Forum. And he helped strengthen his congregants' marriages through his leadership in Jewish Marriage encounter.

Rabbi Brief helped lead and serve his community through his work with the Skokie Commission on Family Services, the Rotary Club, the United Way of Skokie Valley and many other service organizations.

He has always stood by those who were oppressed and through his congregational, interfaith, political and humanist work, helped create Skokie spirit and become a true leader in the community. He helped organize rallies drawing thousands of people to protest prejudice in the community.

Rabbi Brief trained as a Reform rabbi and is a member of the rabbinical organizations of Judaism's Reform, Conservative, and Reconstructionist.

Rabbi Brief and his beloved late wife Erica, raised three children in Skokie—Dena, David, and Debra—all of whom graduated from Niles North High School. They were married for 57 years.

On this momentous occasion, I wish to congratulate Rabbi Neil Briefs 50 years of service to Ezra Habonim Niles Township Jewish Congregation and the Skokie, Illinois community. He has been a treasured friend to me and my family, and an inspiring leader in our community.

RECOGNIZING SPECIALIST MATT FOSTER, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2021 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor fifteen distinguished military veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District who answered the call to serve their Nation honorably, both in uniform and following their return to civilian life. The recipients of the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation exemplify the time-honored qualities of patriotism, service before self, and bold leadership. Following their time in service, their efforts in our community have earned these fine individuals recognition as the recipients of this prestigious commendation: Their stories of sacrifice will encourage future generations to pursue a life dedicated to the very values we cherish as Americans: faith, freedom, and democracy. One such hero is Specialist Matt Foster of Allen, Texas.

Born into a military family, Matt Foster, moved around his first five years of life prior to settling down in New Braunfels, Texas. Like many Americans, Matt answered the call to serve our nation following the horrific attacks of 9/11. Upon graduation from high school, Matt enlisted in the United States Army leading to his deployment to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Foster served as a squad leader in the 101st Airborne Division, leading team members in over 180 missions and combat patrols.

Among Specialist Foster's awards are the Army Commendation Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Army Service Ribbon, and Overseas Service Ribbon.

Following his honorable discharge from the Army, Specialist Foster earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Public Administration from the University of Texas at Arlington, where he was later recognized as a Distinguished Alumni of the Year. Public policy and government are passion points for Foster, and he uses his experiences to serve in the role of Regional Director of Legislative and External Affairs for A&T.

Matt has chosen to give back to his community in a multitude of ways including through his work as the Past Chairman of the DFW USO Advisory Board, as Vice Chairman of the Texas Veterans Commission Fund for Veteran Assistance Advisory Board, Past Public Information Officer of Team Rubicon-DFW, Co-Chairman of the North Texas Crime Commission Legislative Committee, Director of the Collin College Foundation, the YMCA Board of Directors in Plano, and as Past Chairman of the Plano Young Professionals. In addition to his many civic activities, Matt serves as the Director of Communications for the Warrior's Keep, a non-profit organization geared towards enhancing the quality of life for veterans through the use of outdoor therapy as they reintegrate back to civilian life.

Matt and his wife, Vanessa, are raising their young son, Jackson, in Allen, Texas. For his many efforts to support our defenders of free-

dom, Specialist Foster has earned the respect and admiration of our community as he now works to mentor a new generation of military leaders.

Today a grateful Nation thanks Specialist Foster for his exceptional service and congratulates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

**SCL HEALTH AND HEART AND VASCULAR INSTITUTE**

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the SCL Health Heart and Vascular Institute at Northglenn for receiving the Northglenn Mid-Size Business of the Year Award.

The Northglenn Mid-Sized Business of the Year Award is given to a mid-sized business that has made outstanding contributions for the betterment of the community. This year, the award goes to the SCL Health and Heart and Vascular Institute at Northglenn. This SCL Institute is a leader in cardiovascular health treatment and is committed to wide accessibility to medical treatment on the front range. The SCL Institute at Northglenn combines kindness, compassion, excellent medical care, and state-of-the-art technology to help community members enter upcoming stages of their lives.

I personally thank the SCL Health and Heart and Vascular Institute at Northglenn for its dedication to providing outstanding care. I am eager to see this Institute continue delivering top-of-the-line care to our community.

**MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY IS AN OASIS OF LEARNING, KNOWLEDGE, WISDOM, AND KNOWHOW**

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, a hundred years ago, two independent library associations merged into one amazing library—the Middletown Township Public Library.

Congratulations to Library Director Heather Andolsen and Board President Bill Bucco—and library staff and board members past and present—for this remarkable achievement.

A hundred years ago: Warren Harding was in the White House; New Jerseyans Joseph Frelinghuysen and Walter Evans Edge were in the U.S. Senate; Theodore Appleby was Monmouth County's Member of Congress; and the Freeholder Director was Bryant Newcomb.

America and the world in 1921 were still reeling and recovering from WWI and from the 1918 H1N1 Flu Pandemic that infected a third of the world's population and killed 50 million people.

That same year—1921—my favorite baseball team bought land to build Yankee Stadium (I was there in the stands in 1969 for Mickey Mantle Day); the treatment of diabetes was significantly advanced with the isolation of insulin and Albert Einstein got the Nobel Prize for Physics for his many contributions to theoretical physics including his 1905 theory of relativity.

And it was Albert Einstein who famously said "the only thing you absolutely need to know is the location of the library" which in the early years of MTPL perhaps begged the question, where is Dorothy Norton and her Ford Model T library on wheels?

Today, the Library is an important cultural and meeting center and a venue for assistance when disasters hit like Superstorm Sandy.

MTPL is an oasis of learning, knowledge, wisdom, and knowhow.

As food nurtures the body, the availability and accessibility of books and other literary works feeds the mind and soul.

A few weeks ago, I introduced an anti-human trafficking bill named after the great abolitionist, author, orator, and former slave Frederick Douglass.

I was joined at the press conference by Frederick Douglass' great, great, great grandson Ken Morris, who quoted his famous ancestor who said, "knowledge makes a man unfit to be a slave" and "Once you learn to read you will be forever free."

**IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF STATE THEATRE NEW JERSEY**

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize State Theatre New Jersey on its 100th anniversary and join its leadership, staff, and Board of Trustees in celebrating its reopening ribbon cutting and marquee lighting.

Opened in 1921 by Walter Reade, State Theatre New Jersey, then known as Reade's State Theatre, continues to bring exceptional arts-programming, culture, and vitality to the greater New Brunswick community. State Theatre New Jersey is a premier regional venue, providing an outstanding educational and entertainment resource for Central Jersey and beyond, attracting visitors as far as Canada and England. Its efforts to introduce the theatrical arts to the general public, including underserved populations, enriches the lives of the diverse local community and provides a valuable impact on cultural and economic landscape of the area.

Begun as a silent film and vaudeville theater, the theater was a popular entertainment destination for residents of central New Jersey throughout the 1920s. As films with sound evolved, Radio-Keith-Orpheum (RKO) took over operation of the facility and transformed the theater to accommodate and enhance the movie experience, including soundproofing and measures to darken the interior. For about 30 years, RKO State Theatre remained well-attended by residents until many began migrating into the suburbs and television became

mainstream. Efforts by Johnson & Johnson, the New Brunswick Development Corporation and the New Brunswick Cultural Center revitalized the theater in the 1980s and in 1988 it reopened as State Theatre New Jersey. Under the direction of its current President and CEO, Sarah Chaplin, State Theatre New Jersey continues to honor and preserve its history while improving safety, accessibility, and efficiency to bring the theater into the next century.

Once again, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating State Theatre New Jersey on its 100th anniversary. State Theatre New Jersey's commitment to promoting the arts has contributed to the thriving cultural landscape of the community and is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

RECOGNIZING SENIOR MASTER  
SERGEANT PAT NUGENT, RECIPIENT  
OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL  
DISTRICT 2021 CONGRESSIONAL  
VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor fifteen distinguished military veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District who answered the call to serve their Nation honorably, both in uniform and following their return to civilian life. The recipi-

ents of the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation exemplify the time-honored qualities of patriotism, service before self, and bold leadership. Following their time in service, their efforts in our community have earned these fine individuals recognition as the recipients of this prestigious commendation. Their stories of sacrifice will encourage future generations to pursue a life dedicated to the very values we cherish as Americans: faith, freedom, and democracy. One such hero is Senior Master Sergeant Patrick Nugent of Allen, Texas.

Upon joining the U.S. Air Force, Pat Nugent, trained as a parachute rigger and was stationed at England Air Force Base prior to being transferred to RAF Mildenhall, England where he was assigned to an Aerial Port squadron supporting aerial delivery parachute systems throughout the European Theater. During this time, Nugent developed a lifelong passion for photography and was eventually assigned to cover the world-renowned Air Force Thunderbirds. Due to his training as a photojournalist at Syracuse University, Pat would have the opportunity to cover a variety of historical events including the Rhein-Mein Air Base bombing and the return of hostages, Father Martin Jenco and David Jacobson, as well as those kidnapped from the Italian cruise ship *Achille Lauro*. Pat also covered Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Provide Hope, and the Panama invasion, and was involved in efforts to introduce digital photography to the Department of Defense.

During his 23 years of military service, Sergeant Nugent earned a multitude of awards including the National Defense Service Medal

with 1 device, the Air Force Training Ribbon, Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with 4 devices, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with 6 devices, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with 3 devices, Air Force Overseas Short Tour Ribbon, Vietnam Service Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal to name just a few.

Following his retirement from the military, Nugent held government account management positions with Eastman Kodak and Nikon. As an active and lifetime member of Vietnam Veterans of America, Disabled American Veterans, the Seidel Dallas Chapter of the Air Force Association, the USAF Combat Camera Association, and the Collin County Veterans Coalition, Pat can often be seen behind the lens capturing our veterans and military which earned him the Air Force Association's "Medal of Freedom."

Mr. Nugent is a tremendous example of using one's gift in service to their nation. Pat and his wife, Carol, look forward to celebrating fifty years of marriage this year and are the proud parents to two adult children, and five grandchildren.

Today a grateful Nation thanks Senior Master Sergeant Nugent for his exceptional service and congratulates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.