

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING WARREN TECH

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Warren Tech of Jefferson County Public Schools for their 50th anniversary.

Warren Tech is one of the leading Career and Technical Education (CTE) centers in Colorado, preparing students to jump straight into successful careers or to be competitive applicants for college. For five decades, Warren Tech has empowered students through 36 innovative programs, where experienced faculty and industry partners collaborate to provide real-world projects, internships, and apprenticeships. They have equipped students with Post-Secondary Workforce Readiness (PWR) skills while providing over 13,000 free college credits and 1,600 industry certifications annually.

Warren Tech's rigorous educational programs, ranging from agriculture, STEM, arts, trades, and more, are proof of their mission to make meaningful connections between 21st Century academic knowledge and career-focused learning.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Warren Tech on its 50th anniversary and thank all the educators and dedicated individuals who work there for their commitment to our community.

RECOGNIZING SHARON ZAVALA

HON. DON BACON

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Grand Island Central Catholic's Sharon Zavala, the winningest high school volleyball coach in Nebraska history, who is retiring after 49 seasons.

Since 1975 Coach Zavala has built a volleyball dynasty at Central Catholic. She recruited athletes and cheerleaders back then to start a shaky first team but by the end of her career would compile a 1177 win 220 loss record and 11 state championships after 49 years.

Zavala was a pioneer in high school volleyball and set the standard for girls' sports in Grand Island and the surrounding areas. For her efforts she's been inducted into the Nebraska High School Sports Hall of Fame, the Northwest High School Athletic Hall of Fame (Zavala graduated from Northwest), the UNK Athletic Hall of Fame (Zavala's alma mater) and the National High School Hall of Fame.

In 2007 she was awarded the National High School Athletics Coaches Association National High School Volleyball Coach of the Year and

won the Independent Girls' Coach of the year three times during her tenure.

Few coaches have demonstrated Zavala's dedication and passion to high school volleyball. In 49 years she's missed only one practice due to a positive Covid test. She is devoted to players past and present and is responsible for the careers of many successful coaches whom she coached at Central Catholic. Her players speak of her quiet demeanor and her ability to stay calm during close matches. Notably, she has maintained long-time relationships with 49 years of players and is very proud to have coached daughters whose mothers played for her the previous generation.

Zavala attributes her calm demeanor to the traditions she's meticulously followed through the years. Every match, she says, has begun with a "Hail Mary". Her players dedicated themselves to the recitation of the prayer at every match and noted that it always calmed and focused them.

Grand Island Central Catholic is grateful for Zavala's many contributions to the school history and for helping to develop girls' sports at a time when boys' sports was the only show in town. Thanks to Zavala, hundreds of girls in Grand Island and in Central Nebraska have experienced the thrill, hard work, and perseverance and rewards of girls' athletics.

Sharon Zavala has been a role model, leader and certainly a gift to Grand Island Central Catholic, to the Grand Island community, and to the state of Nebraska.

RECOGNIZING ANA OLALDE GUERRERO

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ana Olalde Guerrero for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Ana has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Ana, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Ana's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Ana Olalde Guerrero on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING MY 2024 SPRING INTERN CLASS FOR THEIR SERVICE TO ILLINOIS' 13TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. NIKKI BUDZINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Ms. BUDZINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the class of interns who supported my office during the 2024 spring semester. Their incredible dedication to public service and commitment to learning has been truly inspirational, and the contributions they have made to Illinois' 13th Congressional District have had a significant impact.

In my Washington office, I was honored to work alongside Joshua Diamond, Will Daugherty, and Alexander Goldstein. These three interns have worked tirelessly to support my staff and have done an excellent job navigating the turbulent nature of Congress. From preparing for the State of the Union to helping my office work through appropriations requests, the policy experience and knowledge that these three individuals gained is truly impressive.

Back in Illinois, I was proud to work with Megan McCarthy in my Springfield office and Aidan Joyce in my Champaign office. Their commitment to constituent service by assisting my casework team has been amazing, and I am so proud of the work they have accomplished serving the people of Illinois' 13th Congressional District.

The impact that these individuals have had on my office will be felt for years to come, and we will be very sad to say farewell to this group of interns. I thank Joshua, William, Alexander, Megan, and Aidan, for their service. I wish them all the best as they continue their professional and academic journeys.

RECOGNIZING JEFFREY HAMMOND

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jeffrey Hammond of Canon City for his heroic actions, which have earned him the prestigious Life Saving Award from the Park Law Enforcement Association.

On January 29, 2023, while serving as an Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area Ranger, Jeffrey demonstrated exceptional bravery and skill during a critical rescue operation in Bighorn Canyon. His quick response and decisive actions under pressure were instrumental in saving the life of a woman trapped in her vehicle in the frigid waters of the Arkansas River.

Jeffrey's involvement in the rescue went far beyond the call of duty. Upon arriving at the scene and assessing the situation, he donned

• 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.

his swift water rescue suit and navigated the icy waters, having to force open the vehicle's door to access the driver. He then securely placed a life jacket on her and coordinated with first responders to ensure a safe extraction.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to extend our deepest gratitude and congratulations to Jeffrey Hammond for his life-saving act.

RECOGNIZING MR. EUGENE "JACK"
KRASZEWSKI

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the life of a remarkable man: Mr. Eugene "Jack" Kraszewski. A WWII veteran, father, grandfather, and friend, Jack has dedicated his impressive life to serving the United States and his community.

Jack was born on April 15, 1924, grew up on his family farm, and attended school in Pulaski, Wisconsin. However, Jack did not finish high school as he was drafted into the Army at the age of 18 before graduation. Jack was quickly sent off from small town Pulaski to Fort Hulen, Texas, for basic training. At basic training he was extremely successful where he studied and eventually became part of an anti-aircraft unit. After basic training he went on to be deployed and stationed all throughout Europe including Scotland, England, France, Belgium, and Germany. From March of 1943 to February of 1946, Jack valiantly served our country during the height of the tensions of World War II. Jack was even present on D-Day at the Invasion of Normandy, one of the largest amphibious invasions in modern warfare history. All the way from Northeast Wisconsin, Jack was on the front lines of the most notorious invasions in United States military history. I extend my sincere appreciation and thanks to Jack for his unwavering service and commitment to the United States of America.

Following his discharge from the military, Jack returned home and married the love of his life, Marjorie Stender, on October 11, 1958. Jack and Marjorie enjoyed nearly 60 years together and would grow their family, welcoming their two daughters, Anne, and Ruth.

Mr. Speaker, I once again extend my sincere thanks for Jack for his unwavering service and dedication to the United States. He truly embodies all that it means to be part of the Greatest Generation. Our Nation is safer because of his selfless commitment and service. I urge members of this body to join me in honoring Mr. Eugene "Jack" Kraszewski in recognition of his service. Mr. Kraszewski is deserving of the highest degree of recognition.

RECOGNIZING ZAYNE JAMES

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Zayne James for earning the Ar-

vada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Zayne has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Zayne, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Zayne's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Zayne James on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. COLIN Z. ALLRED

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Mr. ALLRED. Mr. Speaker, on April 20, 2024, I was absent during the time of the following vote. Had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call No. 143, H.R. 3602, End the Border Catastrophe Act.

RECOGNIZING DAMON GOEBEL

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Damon Goebel for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Damon has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Damon, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Damon's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Damon Goebel on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ROCK
CREEK NATIONAL PARK ACT OF
2024

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill to redesignate the United States-owned Rock Creek Park in the District of Columbia as "Rock Creek National Park." Redesignating this park will highlight its significance to the Nation, including visitors to the Nation's capital, and will help bring much-needed funding for the park's inviting trails, waterways, and other unique features.

Rock Creek Park is already a "national" park, as it was established by Congress in 1890 "for the benefit and enjoyment of the

people of the United States." Rock Creek Park was the first federally managed urban park and the third federal park ever created, after Yellowstone and Sequoia. Rock Creek Park was designed to preserve animals, timber, forestry, and other interests in the park, and to ensure that its natural state is maintained as much as possible not only for D.C. residents, but for all Americans. The park also preserves the ancient history of the land, as it was used for temporary settlements and as a quarry for weapons and tools by Native Americans from 7000 BCE until the 1600s.

Since Congress first designated Rock Creek Park, several structures and properties have been established or donated to further preserve Rock Creek Park, creating a vast connected park area that falls under a central National Park Service jurisdiction. In 1892, the federal government acquired Peirce Mill in Rock Creek Park, one of the mills used by local farmers during the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. In 1950, the Old Stone House located in Georgetown, with its pre-Revolutionary War architecture, was acquired by the park. The building was restored and programs explain the house's rich history from the colonial period to the present day. The Fort Circle Parks were also acquired to interpret and preserve the Civil War Defenses of Washington, which created a ring of protection for the Nation's capital during the Civil War. The Carter Barron Amphitheater, established in honor of the 150th anniversary of the Nation's capital, became an integral part of D.C.'s live music scene, and has featured acts including Ella Fitzgerald, Diana Ross, and Earth, Wind and Fire, as well as local artists. The redesignated "Rock Creek National Park" would encompass these later additions to the park.

Today, Rock Creek Park offers residents of D.C., Maryland, and Northern Virginia, as well as visitors, an escape from our increasingly urban environment. Residents and tourists alike enjoy many activities in the park's 2,000 acres, including hiking and biking on the trails, horseback riding, picnicking, tennis, and other recreational activities in some of the open fields. Our residents have expressed their appreciation by volunteering to clean up and maintain the forests, trails, and waterways.

In 1918, landscape architects John Charles Olmstead and Frederick Law Olmstead, Jr. wrote of Rock Creek Park, "No matter how perfect the scenery of the park may be or may become, no matter how high its potential value, that value remains potential except insofar as it is enjoyed by large and ever larger numbers of people, poor and rich alike." Redesignating Rock Creek Park as Rock Creek National Park will help recognize the national status of the park and protect and revitalize this remarkable resource in our Nation's capital.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING SAMY A. OSORIO
ALBORNOZ

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Samy A. Osorio Alborno for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Samy has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Samy, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Samy's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Samy A. Osorio Albornoz on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING INDIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE JERRY TORR

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Mr. BANKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Indiana State Representative Jerry Torr as he prepares to retire from the Statehouse after almost three decades of service.

Rep. Torr's long and distinguished service in the House has made him a legend in Indiana and has earned him the respect of the hundreds of legislators who have served alongside him over the years.

Jerry's contributions to the state of Indiana have been numerous and significant. Most notably, he was instrumental in making Indiana a right-to-work state and spearheaded the legislation that moved Indiana to daylight saving time. His work to allow Hoosiers with minor pre-existing conditions to be insured illustrates his effectiveness, but also his advocacy and concern for the people of his state.

To those who have followed Indiana politics and government for the past 30 years or so, Jerry has been a fixture. He has consistently represented the best of what it means to be a public servant. Beyond his legislative accomplishments, his leadership has been characterized by integrity and fairness. His presence in the halls of the Statehouse will be missed, but his legacy will inspire Hoosier leaders for years to come.

RECOGNIZING AMIRA PEREA

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Amira Perea for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Amira has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Amira, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Amira's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Amira Perea on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

COMMEMORATING THE 109TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, 109 years ago, the Ottoman Empire began a concerted and systemic effort to destroy the Armenian people, Armenians from all walks of life, including writers, doctors, and teachers, were rounded up and brutally murdered, clergy were tortured and burned alive in churches, women and girls were brutalized, raped and killed, sons and daughters witnessed their fathers being murdered, and children and the elderly died of exhaustion and starvation on a forced march to Deir ez-Zor. 1.5 million Armenian men, women and children, entire families, were wiped out in an act of mass premeditated murder.

The facts of the genocide are horrific and undisputed by historians. They were recorded by American diplomats serving in the Ottoman Empire at the time who bore witness in official cables to the annihilation of the Armenian population. The U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire at the time, Henry Morgenthau, described it as a "campaign of race extermination." It was the first genocide of the 20th Century—a term coined by Raphaël Lemkin partly in response to this barbarity.

Despite overwhelming and ever-increasing evidence of this methodical mass killing, Turkey has long engaged in a dangerous campaign to deny the genocide and to silence anyone who seeks to speak the truth.

I have sat down with survivors. I have been welcomed into their homes. I have listened to their stories of how their parents, aunts and uncles were murdered, how their property and the lives that their families built were destroyed. I have watched them relive the pain over and over, reopening the wound to keep the history of their families alive.

The United States will no longer stand in dishonorable silence. In 2019, the U.S. House passed my resolution officially recognizing the Armenian Genocide by a near unanimous and bipartisan margin. That same year, the U.S. Senate also passed a resolution affirming the facts of the Armenian Genocide. And in 2021, President Biden finally cast aside decades of shameful silence by our nation to become the first sitting U.S. President to officially recognize the Armenian Genocide.

These historic achievements happened because of a resilient and enduring Armenian community and diaspora, and decades of work. It's a testament to the efforts of thousands of activists, organizations, communities, and faith leaders. It's a victory for human rights and for truth itself, and it's something that we achieved working together.

But we know there remains so much important work to do. These wounds are still open, they have not fully healed and in tragic ways, some grow even larger.

To this day, President Aliyev of Azerbaijan echoes the genocidal language and actions of more than a century ago with the support of Turkey. Beginning on September 27, 2020, and over 44 days, Azerbaijani forces invaded and murdered innocent Armenians in Artsakh and displaced tens of thousands more. They continued to terrorize the people of Artsakh in

subsequent military attacks, and by blocking the Lachin corridor, leaving 120,000 ethnic Armenian people without access to food, water, medical supplies and services, gas, and electricity for over 9 months. And then in 2023, the Aliyev regime took full advantage of a people they had systematically starved to ethnically cleanse Artsakh's indigenous Armenian population from their land.

As we mark the 109th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide with pledges of "never again," the democratic and peaceful Armenian people face threats like never before. There is real and growing concern that Aliyev has his eyes set on land beyond Artsakh. To this day, Azerbaijani forces remain present on sovereign Armenian land, in violation of Armenia's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Though the United States and international partners have condemned Azerbaijan's aggression and military assault against Armenians, the time for strong statements alone has clearly long passed. Condemnation must be followed by real meaningful consequences. The United States must hold Azerbaijan and its leadership accountable. Crimes against humanity cannot be ignored and cannot go unanswered.

The United States must suspend military assistance to Azerbaijan, impose Global Magnitsky Act sanctions on Azerbaijani officials complicit in war crimes and other gross human rights violations, call for Azerbaijan's release of Armenian prisoners of war, hostages, leaders of Artsakh, and other illegally detained persons, and urge the immediate withdrawal of Azerbaijani forces from the sovereign territory of the Republic of Armenia. Further, we must provide robust humanitarian assistance to Armenia and the Armenian people, advocate for the right of displaced persons and refugees to return to their homes in Artsakh, with a commitment to safeguarding their individual and collective property rights. Finally, we must also call attention to the destruction and desecration of Armenian religious and cultural sites by Azerbaijan and urge their safeguarding and preservation.

On this solemn anniversary, as we pause to remember the innocent victims of the Armenian Genocide, we also reflect on the resilience of those who survived, and the perseverance of their children and grandchildren, who built new lives in the United States and around the world, speak the beautiful Armenian language, and enrich our nation with the Armenian culture and heritage. Armenians refused to let the Genocide define their lives or to limit their future potential. Instead, they showed the world that Armenians could face the future with courage, knowing that they have already overcome the worst atrocities of the past.

Despite the struggles the Armenian people have faced and continue to face, it has not broken their faith, determination, or their will to press on. They have overcome the harshest of trials, and yet, they remain strong and unbowed, in Los Angeles, in Yerevan, and around the world. I will always stand with the Armenian community.

RECOGNIZING EVA HERN

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eva Hern for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Eva has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Eva, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Eva's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Eva Hern on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BATTERY COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL

HON. TRACEY MANN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Battery Council International. In March 1924, 25 firms launched the National Battery Manufacturer's Association—the group that would eventually become BCI. Since then, BCI has been the leading trade association for unlocking the potential of energy storage and supporting the commercial integration of essential products. BCI members are committed to safe, responsible battery manufacturing.

The United States' lead battery industry has more than 165 GWh of manufacturing capacity across 39 facilities, 250,000 lead battery collection and distribution sites, and 9 lead battery recycling facilities. Each of these components supports the nearly 100 percent recycle rate for lead batteries, creating an impressive circular economy.

In the last century, BCI members have created batteries to power nearly a billion vehicles in the U.S. alone—powering individuals, families, and businesses along the way.

In 2022, I visited a BCI member, Stryten Energy, which has a manufacturing facility in the Big First District of Kansas. Stryten's stored energy solutions are built in the U.S. and power everything from forklifts, cars, trains, trucks, microgrids, submarines, and more.

Stryten has over a century of expertise and is the only energy storage solutions provider in North America that can offer advanced lead, lithium, and vanadium battery solutions to solve complex storage challenges. Companies like Stryten Energy make BCI a strong and essential voice in the energy and defense industries. I congratulate the Battery Council International on its 100th anniversary and for all the work they do to accelerate the future of energy storage in the U.S. and beyond.

RECOGNIZING DAVID JAIMES GOMEZ

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize David Jaimes Gomez for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

David has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like David, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to David's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate David Jaimes Gomez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING LINDA LEWIS-EVERETT

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to present Linda Lewis-Everett with the Sheila Corcoran Hoosier Women Hero Award for her service to the country, community, and the city of Indianapolis.

Each month, my office recognizes women veterans who are often overlooked and underrepresented, especially women of color. Inspired by its namesake, this award was created to highlight exemplary Hoosier women veterans whose service to their community and nation is unparalleled. These women are inspirational and guided by a deep love for their fellow veterans.

Known to many for her commitment to assisting others, Linda's journey of service began at the young age of 22 when she en-

listed in the United States Army, where she proudly served our country and achieved the rank of Sergeant. Her training in the Army led to 22 years in the United States Postal Service, before she retired in 2013. Linda has since continued to dedicate her life to the betterment of all Americans through her work and advocacy in justice, politics, and culture. As one of the Top Ladies of Distinction, her work on health wellness initiatives such as the American Cancer Society and Senior Citizens Connect has furthered Indianapolis' goal of becoming a leader in the medical industry.

Combining her love for philanthropy with heritage, Linda is a steadfast and outspoken advocate for the Black community and women veterans. Her volunteer work with the National Council of Negro Women, the Indiana Black Expo, as well as her organization Boundless Blessing, are a testament to her legacy of service and to her Ghanaian ancestry. In 2019, Linda received the Author Academy Award for her best-selling book: "I Still Hear the Drums." She continues to celebrate her love of community and culture through her church, food pantry, and the various civic and social organizations she supports.

Her kindness, compassion, and selflessness have cultivated a movement spreading positive lasting impacts for our community and beyond.

Especially as we celebrate National Volunteer Month this April, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Linda Lewis-Everett for her decades of continued service to Hoosiers and to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING ESHAYA GRAY-SULLIVAN

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eshaya Gray-Sullivan for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Eshaya has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Eshaya, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Eshaya's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Eshaya Gray-Sullivan on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.