

Harding, who is retiring after thirty-four years of accomplished and distinguished military service. Throughout his career as a senior officer, General Harding has provided invaluable testimony and advice to this body and in particular to the Armed Services Committee. Specifically, General Harding has provided his expert military advice on a wide range of defense and national security issues and especially on the workings of the military justice system in relation to the sexual assault crisis in which the military finds itself. I think I speak for all of my colleagues on the Armed Services Committee when I say that his depth of knowledge, outstanding leadership and professionalism, and deep respect and consideration for all of our men and women in uniform will be greatly missed.

The son of an Air Force officer and grandson of a Naval officer, General Harding entered the Air Force with a direct commission in 1980 after receiving his Bachelor of Science degree and Juris Doctor degree from the University of Arkansas. Over the course of his career, General Harding served six tours as a staff judge advocate at the unified command, major command, numbered air force and wing levels. He also served in a variety of staff positions at Headquarters Air Force and as the Deputy Chief Counsel for U.S. Transportation Command. Before serving as The Judge Advocate General (TJAG) General Harding was the Commander of the Air Force Legal Operations Agency.

During his tenure as TJAG, General Harding led the Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps during one of the most turbulent periods in military law and most challenging budget crises in history. He innovatively orchestrated the creation and implementation of the Federal Government's first-ever Special Victims' Counsel Program, ensuring legal representation for victims of sexual assault. This Program was subsequently adopted by the Secretary of Defense and implemented across the Department of Defense.

Additionally, General Harding's focused processing initiatives revitalized the military justice system by drastically reducing court-martial processing times. He also resurrected the publication of the Air Force's standards of professional conduct by leading the drafting, coordinating, and publishing of the first-ever, Air Force Instruction 1-1, Air Force Standards, and he keenly consolidated the Judge Advocate and Inspector General inspection processes by creating a single two-tiered evaluation system to standardize and improve the delivery of legal services. Finally, General Harding astutely guided the Air Force through one of the most challenging budget crises in history by providing sage legal support for multiple manpower and personnel reductions, headquarters reorganizations, and field operating agency consolidations.

Through my role as Member of the Armed Services Committee I have had the pleasure of working directly with General Harding during this time. He has faithfully executed his oath of office and constitutional duties as the top uniformed military lawyer for the United States Air Force and provided this committee and congress with honest, direct, and sound advice. He will leave a lasting legacy on our Armed Forces.

For thirty-four years General Harding has performed his job professionally, honestly, and with great dedication. We will miss his leader-

ship and vision, and wish him all the best as he retires from active duty service to our nation.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ERNEST J. REYES

HON. TONY CÁRDENAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of our friend Ernest J. Reyes who passed away recently at the age of 73. Though Mr. Reyes is sorely missed by friends and family, I know his legacy will endure. He had an illustrious career and was a passionate, hard-working advocate.

Mr. Reyes, a native of Madera, CA, was dedicated to the California real estate community. He was a licensed broker since 1972, served on the San Diego Real Estate Board, and founded Network Realty, a real estate brokerage firm. He also tapped into his knowledge of the real estate market to help families thrive and realize the American dream of homeownership. He co-founded the National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals. Under his leadership, NAHREP has become "The Voice for Hispanic Real Estate" and proud champions of homeownership for the Hispanic community." Mr. Reyes was also Chairman of the San Diego Home Loan Counseling Center, a non-profit serving low and moderate-income families through economic literacy education.

Additionally, Mr. Reyes was an exceptional public servant. He was a member of the Hollister Elementary School District Board and served as Secretary. And in 1976, the California Senate Rules Committee appointed Mr. Reyes to serve on the Employment Services Board. He was also appointed by the U.S. Small Business Administration's Administrator Karen G. Mills to Chair the Regulatory Fairness Board, Region IX. And notably, Mr. Reyes served on the staff of the Honorable Leon E. Panetta while he was in Congress.

I extend my sincerest condolences to his wife of 50 years, Patricia Pedregon Reyes, along with his children, Denise Johnson and Daren Reyes, and his three grandchildren. Mr. Reyes was an inspiration and I know his loss will be felt by many, including the 29th Congressional District.

AMOS RUTHERFORD

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Amos Rutherford on his 100th birthday, which he celebrates today, March 14th, 2014.

Mr. Rutherford is an exemplary citizen and lifelong resident of Caldwell County. Born in Morganton in 1914, Mr. Rutherford joined the military in 1942. As a medical aidman in World War II, Mr. Rutherford was awarded a Good Conduct Medal, American Theatre Service Medal, and a Victory Medal. These awards reflect Mr. Rutherford's character and the incredible size of his heart.

Returning to Morganton in 1946, Mr. Rutherford worked for Mullis Motor Company, and then spent 30 years at the Esso Exxon station in Lenior. I am proud to honor Mr. Rutherford today, as he has shown time and again an unwavering commitment to our district.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire 11th District of North Carolina, I congratulate Mr. Rutherford on his milestone 100th birthday and thank him for his service to Western North Carolina and to our nation.

A TRIBUTE TO ALEXANDRA HELFRICH—28TH CONGRES- SIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Alexandra Helfrich of Burbank.

When her eldest daughter began elementary school, Ms. Helfrich learned that the school did not have any arts programs. She began to fundraise and sought out grant opportunities to bring arts education back into the classroom. Ms. Helfrich worked with other parents, the PTA and Booster organizations to provide opportunities so every Burbank Unified School District (BUSD) student could experience music, visual art, theater, dance, and media arts. Through these collaborations, art programs became available at schools during the school day and after school as well.

Ms. Helfrich has served as a member of the Board of Directors for the Burbank Arts For All Foundation since 2007 and served as its co-chair from 2010 to 2013. The Burbank Arts For All Foundation works to ensure every student in Burbank public schools receives a quality arts education as a part of their core curriculum. To support the foundation's mission, Ms. Helfrich continues to serve on its Executive Committee. Ms. Helfrich's volunteer efforts have provided opportunities as well as increased access for children to become creative learners.

Ms. Helfrich has also served the Burbank Unified School District as a parent representative to the District Safety Committee, where she helped update the Special Education Parent Handbook. She is currently serving on the District Local Control Accountability Plan Committee. In addition, Ms. Helfrich, who is a committed school fundraiser, has consistently served on Booster Club Boards since 2007.

Ms. Helfrich is married to Mark Helfrich, a feature film editor and director, and they have two teenage daughters.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Alexandra Helfrich.

SERGIO MARTINEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sergio Martinez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Sergio Martinez is an 8th grader at Wheat Ridge 5-8 and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sergio Martinez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sergio Martinez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO JORGE PAVEZ
HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a dear friend of mine, Jorge Pavez. Jorge passed away on Saturday, March 8, 2014. Riverside County has been fortunate to have community members whose personal stories have contributed immensely to the rich history of Southern California. Jorge Pavez was one of these individuals. He was truly the definition of the American Dream fulfilled and served as an incredible inspiration to those around him. A resident of Corona for over 40 years, Jorge was a pillar of the community and will be deeply missed.

The story of Jorge's incredible life began in 1963 when he boarded a plane in his home nation of Chile, with a one way ticket to Miami. He wasn't sure what the United States of America would hold for him, but was ready to tackle any challenge that came his way. With only \$150 in his pocket upon arrival, success proved distant. He struggled without any knowledge of the English language and just a small bed at the local YMCA that ran him \$5 a night. After a series of unfortunate events, Jorge decided to head west to California by driving a Buick convertible there for its owner.

Jorge, who was still learning English and developing his skills, was not discouraged by the tough job market, and eventually landed a job as a parking attendant in Santa Monica. He was soon transferred to another parking lot, and the move proved to be a testament to fate, when he met his future wife, Joyce, who worked in management there. She became responsible for helping him learn English when she gave him a book to assist in the process. With the love and support of Joyce, proven hard work at the parking lot, and a new knowledge of the English language, a neighborhood insurance agent took notice of Jorge's natural work ethic and decided to give him a chance

with a job. Insurance was not an industry Jorge had come to know while growing up in South America, so while he was initially skeptical, he ultimately proved to be a natural at selling policies after a few short weeks of getting accustomed to the nature of the business.

Following a tragic event in the community where an insurance policy had a real impact, Jorge became a believer in the industry and developed a passion for the craft. This would ultimately be the beginning of a long and successful career. After starting his own agency, CPI Financial & Insurance Services, in two locations and acquiring another agency all within a matter of 10 years, Jorge became one of the preeminent insurance agents in the Inland Empire.

Through all of his success, Jorge remained committed to helping others fulfill their "American Dream." By promoting employment opportunities within his insurance companies, he has been able to help others looking for a chance to achieve their own form of success. From moving to the country virtually penniless, to being responsible for creating economic growth for many in the Inland Empire, Jorge proved that it is possible to accomplish your goals with a lot of hard work and dedication. On March 14, 2014, Jorge would have celebrated his 50th Anniversary in the United States of America.

On March 20, 2014, a memorial honoring Jorge's extraordinary life will be held. He is survived by his loving wife and children. Jorge will always be remembered for his incredible work ethic, generosity, contributions to the community and love of family. His dedication is a testament to a life lived well and a legacy that will continue. I extend my condolences to Jorge's family and friends; although Jorge may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to the world remain and will never be forgotten.

HONORING ELIZABETH BIESTER**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, Elizabeth Biester is a Bucks County woman who has made a difference in the global and local community with years of leadership, social advocacy, and volunteerism. She is being honored with the March 2014 Bucks County Women's History Month Award. As a volunteer, she has made an indelible imprint on our community and beyond.

Elizabeth Biester has advocated on behalf of the children of the world who were abandoned, orphaned, or experienced discrimination through her work with the Pearl S. Buck Foundation/Pearl S. Buck International and Welcome House.

The local organizations in which she has also tirelessly contributed include: American Red Cross, Network of Victim Assistance, Teachers for Tomorrow, League of Women Voters, YWCA of Bucks County and the Bucks County Symphony.

We recognize a dedicated woman of integrity and generous spirit who brings heart felt compassion to her endeavors. As we also acknowledge the impact she has had on many lives, we are grateful to Elizabeth Biester for setting an example of service and social advocacy for others to follow.

HONORING JORDAN
FOTHERINGHAM**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jordan Fotheringham. Jordan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jordan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jordan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jordan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jordan constructed a picnic shelter at Mac Porter Park in Kearney, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jordan Fotheringham for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. SHAWN CASEY, RECIPIENT OF THE 2014 FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD
HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Dr. Shawn Casey, who will receive the 2014 Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Man of the Year Award on Monday, March 17, 2014. Dr. Casey was born in Pittston to Suzanne Walker Malloy and the late George T. Casey of Pittston. He graduated from Wyoming Area High School and Wilkes University, and studied Dentistry at the University of Pittsburgh. After graduation, Dr. Casey returned to the Pittston Area in 1994 to establish his dental practice.

In 2005, Dr. Casey founded Casey Dental, which now employs multiple dentists and specialists to provide comprehensive dental care in one location. Dr. Casey's office also accommodates Special Needs Dentistry for individuals with developmental disabilities, which he dedicated to his aunt, Mary Casey. Recently, Casey Dental expanded into Convention Hall in Pittston Township, where the brand new facility is equipped with 39 dentists and technicians to meet the growing need of patients in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Shawn is a board member of the Pennsylvania Academy of General Dentistry, a member of the American Dental Association, Academy of General Dentistry, and Gnathos Orthodontic. He is also an active member of local charities, church organizations, school districts, and public service organizations. In particular, Shawn takes great pride in his Irish heritage and has been an active member with the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick for over 20 years. He won the Swingle Award for community service in 2003, and previously served as