

HONORING ANDREW MALCOLM

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Andrew Malcolm, a long-time, talented member of my staff who transitions this week from my office after more than seven years of dedicated service to Oregon's Second Congressional District.

Growing up in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Andrew earned a degree in politics from Princeton, where he graduated Summa Cum Laude in 2009. Throughout school he had a keen eye on politics. He served as a congressional page during high school and in college he interned in the George W. Bush White House. It was also at Princeton that he met his wonderful wife Liz and I was glad to be present for their wedding nearly two years ago in her home state of Illinois.

Despite his East Coast upbringing, Andrew dove right into being an adopted Oregonian, answering those that asked, "I am not from Oregon, but I've spent a lot of time there." This started early on when Andrew jumped at a short notice opportunity to spend a couple days in Central Oregon and get some in-district experience. Now the Congressional schedule is a bit fluid at times and those couple days morphed into a couple weeks, while Liz was probably wondering if he'd gotten lost in the wilderness.

It might have been the beautiful landscapes, or maybe the Oregon pinots, craft beer and Pendleton whiskey, but no matter the reason Andrew fell in love with all that Oregon has to offer and adopted it as his second home state.

As an East Coaster learning the ways of the Pacific Northwest, it wasn't all smooth sailing. In fact, much like the east coast ships crossing the Columbia bar for the first time, his initial experience in Oregon's fashion waters was a bit rough. Arriving to his interview in boat shoes, he quickly learned they were well out of the norm for Oregonians, and probably shouldn't be seen in them around the district.

Moving deftly past that faux pas, Andrew rose swiftly through the ranks in my office, from Legislative Correspondent and Legislative Assistant, to Press Secretary and Deputy Chief of Staff. Along the way he's helped contribute to some historic moments for Oregon and our nation.

When Andrew's first tour of duty out in Oregon came to an end, we'd taken back the majority in the House. Andrew found himself in the middle of the action helping staff the transition effort for House Republicans heading into the 112th Congress.

Andrew also played an instrumental role last fall as we worked all the angles and were successful in achieving the chair of the Energy and Commerce Committee—a first in Oregon history.

Perhaps the toughest work, however, was done daily. Dealing with the press on Capitol Hill is a challenging enough job, but there may be no more challenging job than being press secretary to a Member of Congress who was a press secretary to a Member of Congress. Andrew took this in stride, and tackled it with dedicated skill.

Weighing in at over 70,000 square miles, Oregon's Second District is vast and diverse.

There are five distinct television markets covered by nearly a dozen stations and numerous radio stations and newspapers. Reporters kept Andrew on his toes with questions on a wide range of policy issues. Whether we were working to put people back to work in the woods, or fighting for veterans' access to the care they deserve, Andrew easily distilled complex policy down for the public, sometimes in as little as 140 characters.

While Andrew is departing as a formal member of my staff, he will always be a valued member of Team Walden. We will miss his quick wit and dedicated intellect, but know they will continue to be an asset to him into the future.

As Andrew moves on to the next stage of his professional career, I am reminded of a piece of advice from President Theodore Roosevelt. "Life is a great adventure . . . accept it in such a spirit." Throughout his time in my office, Andrew has done just that. Jumping at opportunities and taking on new responsibilities with tenacity and a high degree of respect and appreciation for the work we do here in Congress, and the people we serve.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Andrew for his dedication and service to the great state of Oregon and our nation, and wish him and Liz the very best of luck for the next chapter of their lives.

CONGRATULATING THE HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION OF THE OLD SMITH POINT SCHOOL-HOUSE/CHURCH

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Smith Point Community Church on its dedication as a new Texas Historical Marker.

There is over one hundred years of church history wrapped up in what was once known as the "Old Smith Point Schoolhouse/Church." The Old Smith Point Baptist Church was established in the late 1800's by a group of pastors from the neighboring county that were concerned about the lack of a church in Chambers County. They agreed to be circuit pastors and take turns preaching under a stand of trees, where the church now stands. In 1937, the county built the building that is used as the current sanctuary, which served a multi-purpose as both a church and the first school in Chambers County. In 1948 the church reorganized and hired its first pastor, L.J. Hand who served the people of the Smith Point Community part time. In 1956, P.L. Smith was hired as the church's first full time pastor.

In 1960, the county sold the building to the church for one dollar and the promise that the church would build two public restrooms. At the same time, six lots of land right next to the building were gifted to the church by E.J. Rosenquest. The building was renovated, under then pastor J.R. Gibson, with additional classrooms and the public restrooms as promised. The church wanted to build a parsonage for their pastor, but had no money or resources to do so. They prayed to God and asked him to provide everything they needed

in order to get the parsonage built. Hurricane Carla occurred in 1961 literally raining wood and debris on Smith Point. Those pieces of wood from the hurricane were used to build the same parsonage that is still used today.

In 2007, the church's name was changed to Smith Point Community Church and still serves the residents of Chambers County with guidance by Reverend Michael K. Graves.

There is an abundant amount of local history and perseverance behind this church. I am proud to have such history in my District. Once again, I congratulate Smith Point Community Church and its dedication as a new Texas Historical Marker.

IN MEMORY OF NHON H.T. NGUYEN

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, after a life of service to both the Republic of Vietnam and to the Vietnamese American community in Southern California, Nhon H.T. Nguyen passed away April 18, 2017 at the age of 91.

Nhon was born in 1927 in Hue, Vietnam. She joined the military finance administration in 1950 and transferred to service at the Nguyen Tri Phuong Military Hospital in Hue in 1957, where she was eventually promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant.

It was during her service at the hospital that she witnessed the sacrifices and loss of disabled soldiers, which motivated her to dedicate her life to serve disabled veterans, war widows, and children of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam.

In 1967, Nhon transferred to the Women Military Institute and Training Center, where she rose to the rank of Captain and was appointed to serving in the Women Military Bureau at the Joint General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam. Two years later, she was promoted to the rank of Major and named as the Head of the Research Department. In 1972, she transferred to the Republic of Vietnam Air Force and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

In early 1975, she was honored by the Republic of Vietnam with the Knight Decoration of the National Order of Vietnam (De Ngu Dang Bao Quoc Huan Chuong) for her twenty-five years of service to the armed forces.

Following the Fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975, the Communist government imprisoned her in numerous "re-education camps" such as Long Giao, Quang Trung, Hoc Mon, Z30D, Ham Tan, and Long Thanh, where she was forced to perform harsh labor for four years.

In 1990, Nhon and her family resettled in the United States under the HO2 program (Humanitarian Operation), and they have been living in Orange County, California since.

Shortly after arriving in the United States, she joined the Former Political Prisoners Mutual Assistance Association, providing help to resettle South Vietnam veterans to the U.S.

In 1996, she joined the Republic of Vietnam Disabled Veterans and Widows Relief Association as the Secretary General. After a decade of service, she was unanimously elected President of the organization by all its members in 2006.

Under her leadership as President, the RVN Disabled Veterans and Widows Relief Association, in partnership with SBTN and Asia Entertainment, organized a total of ten “Cam On Anh” Benefit Concerts, with all of the proceeds going toward assisting disabled South Vietnam veterans, widows and their children who are still in Vietnam.

Along with her lifelong career of military and charitable service, Nhon was an outstanding Vietnamese Girl Scout and a Scout Leader, joining Girl Scouting in 1941.

Despite the difficult circumstances during the war and being in military service, she always lived her life embodying the Scouting values and helping younger Scouts whenever necessary.

She also became a founding member and advisor in 2004 of the Lang Bach Hop Quang Te Scouters Association of Southern California.

For her merits and contributions to the Vietnamese Scouting Movement, the International Central Committee of Vietnamese Scouting awarded Nhon the Bach Hop Medal in 2012 and the Bac Dau Medal in 2016—the two highest awards given by the organization.

When asked in a 2011 interview what motivated her to continue her volunteer work to support disabled RVN veterans in Vietnam, she said “I feel happy when I am able to join the Vietnamese community and organizations in organizing the Cam On Anh Benefit Concert because of the fraternal love and brotherhood. As soldiers, that sentiment is very strong. I imagine the happy moment when they receive our assistance, when their children have a little bit more to eat, to wear, and their family feels a little bit more warmhearted when they see fellow compatriots overseas are still thinking of them and their sacrifices.”

Nhon is survived by her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

CONGRATULATING RICHARD “RICK” LEDGETT ON HIS RETIREMENT AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Ranking Member SCHIFF and myself, I rise today to congratulate Richard “Rick” Ledgett on his retirement as the Deputy Director of the National Security Agency (NSA). With 40 years of government service, Rick has dedicatedly served his country, the NSA, and the Intelligence Community. Before beginning his tenure at the NSA, Rick spent 11 years in the United States Army working as a SIGINTer.

At the NSA for the past 29 years, Rick has held a variety of operational, management, and technical leadership positions, including director of the agency’s Threat Operations Center (NTOC) from 2012–2013 and most recently, serving as the agency’s Deputy Director.

Prior to his appointment at NTOC, Rick served in both the collection and cyber mission areas of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence and was appointed as the

DNI’s first National Intelligence Manager for cyber.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, we would like to wish Rick Ledgett happiness, success, and good health as he begins retirement and to thank him for his service to his country, the NSA, and the U.S. Intelligence Community. Rick, best wishes on your retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE DILLARD HOUSE 100TH ANNIVERSARY IN DILLARD, GEORGIA

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th Anniversary of the Dillard House Restaurant and Inn. This milestone is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the Dillard family, who have owned and operated the charming mountain escape since the early nineteenth century. The Dillard House has served travelers and locals alike by providing a dynamic getaway experience, with farm-to-table dining, outdoor family recreation, beautiful vineyards, and breathtaking views.

The Dillard family first came to Georgia in 1794 and played an integral role in the early development and success of Dillard, Georgia. By contributing to an array of businesses and even lending its name to the Town, the Dillard family has stood as a pillar of the community generation after generation.

The Dillard House is a unique piece of history that continues to expand, accommodating larger groups and providing more activities, while remaining loyal to its northeast Georgia roots. The Dillard family embodies the true meaning of southern hospitality and has served hundreds of thousands of patrons throughout the last century. Over the years, the Dillard House has become a landmark establishment in the Ninth District and the premiere northeast Georgia dining experience.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to celebrate with the Dillard family and to recognize their success before you today.

IN RECOGNITION OF VICTOR SAROKI FOR BEING NAMED THE CHALDEAN AMERICAN BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Victor Saroki for being named the Chaldean American Business Person of the Year by the Chaldean American Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Saroki is a renowned architect who has helped design and restore many of the iconic buildings in southeast Michigan.

After graduating from Lawrence Technological University, Mr. Saroki founded Saroki Architecture with his wife Michelle in 1983. The firm, based out of Birmingham, Michigan, has established a reputation as an exceptional

architecture and interiors firm as a result of its successful work on high-profile projects in southeast Michigan. Under Mr. Saroki’s leadership, the firm has designed the expansion of the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham, ABC Harley-Davidson and St. Thomas Chaldean Catholic Church. These projects have been met with widespread acclaim and have helped earn the firm more than 60 design awards. Additionally, Mr. Saroki is active in the community, having served on numerous nonprofits and community associations.

Mr. Saroki’s entrepreneurship and leadership has been instrumental in helping strengthen the southeast Michigan community. His firm has received numerous plaudits for its work, having been named the 2007 Firm of the Year Award by the American Institute of Architects’ Michigan chapter, as well as receiving recognition from the Construction Institute of Michigan and numerous Birmingham Historic Preservation Awards. Additionally, Mr. Saroki has also been named to the American Institute of Architects’ College of Fellows. This widespread recognition is a testament to the high quality of Mr. Saroki’s architecture and designs. Mr. Saroki’s work with the community at large has also been impactful. As a board member of the Chaldean Community Cultural Center and other civic groups, his work has played an important role in improving the quality of life for the Chaldean community. These accomplishments are worthy of recognition, and it is my hope that Mr. Saroki and his firm continue their excellent work in the coming years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Victor Saroki for receiving the Chaldean American Business Person of the Year. His distinguished career and community activism have served southeast Michigan well.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote numbers 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye” on vote 231, 232 and 233. I would have voted “nay” on votes 229, 230 and 234.

HONORING SUSAN LURIE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a member of the community who has been instrumental in the success of the Westchester Jewish Center for many years, Susan Lurie. The WJC is honoring Susan at their 66th Annual Spring Gala this year, and I cannot think of a more deserving honoree.

Susan has been part of the Larchmont/Marmonieck community for over 30 years. She became Executive Director of the Westchester Jewish Center 16 years ago after receiving a call from a congregant at WJC who was on the search committee for a new director there.