

nonprofit agencies. Focused on providing war relief and support for the military during World War I, the United Way of Greater Kansas City began in 1918 as a nonprofit in Missouri's Fifth Congressional District. One hundred years later, it is now one of the largest organizations in Kansas City. It has a service area spanning five locations, and all are dedicated to providing services that benefit disadvantaged families and individuals throughout the Kansas City area.

For one hundred years, United Way of Greater Kansas City has demonstrated a desire to help individuals by uniting companies, local business owners, and neighborhood leaders to address the needs of a continuously growing population. Currently, United Way is focused on raising funds for programs and organizations driven to help individuals and families in need. The funds raised by United Way ensure that local agencies and organizations can help individuals meet their full potential academically, socially, and financially by participating in training and classes designed to help them acquire new skills and support networks. Community projects funded by the organization helped introduce literacy programs such as the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, which sends books to children of all ages at no cost. Other partnerships and contributions by United Way include Project Rise, which offers paid internships to young students, free tax services with H&R Block, and support for HIV/AIDS agencies.

In 1926, United Way of Greater Kansas City raised over one million dollars in donations for the first time in the organization's history. Since then, they have continued to host donation and volunteer campaigns to raise additional funds for an array of causes. These funds are distributed to support organizations and agencies providing aid to the people of Kansas City in times of hardship. Primary examples include assisting local agencies during the Great Depression and after the devastating "Plaza Flood" of 1977. Moreover, the organization is now focused on improving human capital and cultivating economic innovation through education and enrichment programs. United Way of Greater Kansas City has established themselves as a pillar in our community.

It is my steadfast belief that the philanthropy of this organization has benefitted my constituents tremendously. Their noteworthy contributions to the city reveal an organization founded on empathy. United Way of Greater Kansas City guides individuals to the right person, program, or place when assistance is required. The people of Kansas City, myself included, are grateful to have such a dedicated organization in our neighborhood, focused on addressing community needs.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and all of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District in honoring United Way of Greater Kansas City for their monumental achievement of 100 years of service in the community and their indelible mark on society. I urge all my colleagues and fellow citizens across the country to join me in showing our appreciation to United Way of Greater Kansas City for their dedication to humanitarian service.

## CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MICKEY KAITANGIAN

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 16, 2018*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the life of Mickey Kaitangian, who passed from this life on August 28, 2018 at the age of 83. Mickey was a beloved fixture of the Fresno community, known for volunteering his time and serving others. From his service to our country to his 29 years as a firefighter, Mickey's generous spirit touched the lives of everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Born May 27, 1935 in Fresno, California, Mickey Kaitangian and his brother grew up in poverty-stricken Southeast Fresno. Young Mickey would wander to Fire Station 4 down the street from his home and befriend the firemen on their breaks, where he kindled his deep love for firefighting.

Before beginning his firefighting career, Mickey enlisted in the United States Navy. He worked as a mechanic for the Douglas A-1 Skyraider, serving on the USS *Ranger* (CV-61) aircraft carrier during the WestPac Far East Cruise.

In 1964, at the age of 29, Mickey joined the Fresno Fire Department. For 29 years, Mickey served on the frontlines. His colleagues remember Mickey as, "the first to go into the fire and the last to come out." Even after long hours of hard work, Mickey always made time for his wife Betty, and their sons Kelly and Raymond.

Mickey lived life to the fullest. He volunteered for pit crews of famous race car drivers, including Mario Andretti and A. J. Foyt in 1969. He also tried his hand at Semi-Pro baseball.

After his retirement in 1994, Mickey continued to serve as an ambassador for the Fresno Fire Department by representing them at local charity events. He so generously gave his time to a number of local charities, including donating toys to patients at the local children's hospital and teaching school children about fire safety.

Mickey's life of dedicated service for the community and country he loved so much should serve as an example to us all. He is survived by his beloved wife Betty, sons Kelly and Raymond, and six grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me on this day in a moment of silence in memory of the life and service of Mickey Kaitangian. The contributions that he gave throughout his life will continue to have a lasting impression on the fabric of our Valley. His presence in our community will be greatly missed. It is my honor to join his family and many friends in celebrating his life.

## HONORING SUE HEITMAN WITH CALIFORNIA'S THIRD DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

### HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 16, 2018*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sue Heitman as a woman of the

year. She has been a dedicated volunteer for over 20 years. Her commitment to serving her community is evident by her participation on a multitude of non-profit boards of directors. She has continuously dedicated her time to lifting up communities and improving the lives of others. In her 19 years at Yolo First 5, she helped grant over 30 million dollars to worthy causes benefitting children under 5 in Yolo County. She helped found and has spent 18 years working with Capay Valley Vision, an organization dedicated to preserving the heritage and community of Capay Valley as the region grows and changes in pursuit of a better future. For 10 years she has served as a board member of the New Seasons Community Development Corporation helping to revitalize downtown Esparto through community development projects. Ms. Heitman has excelled in all of her volunteer roles, earning awards from the Yolo Community Foundation, Sacramento Area Council of Governments, and Sacramento Positive Options Family Services. She has also been generous with her time in a way that few people are by serving as a foster parent for special needs children for over 10 years. She has fostered 27 special needs children and continues to do so to this day. The impact of Ms. Heitman's volunteer work can be seen throughout her community, and the personal impact she has had on the lives of her foster children will last for years to come.

## TRIBUTE TO CAROL AND TERRY PETERS

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 16, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Carol and Terry Peters of Avoca, Iowa for receiving the 2018 Volunteers of the Year Award given by the AHSTW Community School District. Carol and Terry have been active volunteers for the school for over six decades.

Carol and Terry have volunteered since 1961 and they continue to find new ways to help the school district. From assisting students, to helping with sporting events, Carol and Terry have made a lasting contribution to the AHSTW school district and its students. AHSTW Athletic Director Davis Pattee said, "AHSTW is very lucky to have had their generous time and efforts for so many years. With approximately 100 years of volunteering for our school district, the Peters are more than deserving of this award."

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Carol and Terry Peters for receiving the 2018 Volunteers of the Year Award given by the AHSTW Community School District. Carol and Terry are shining examples of how hard work and dedication can affect the future of students and their educational goals. I am proud to represent them in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in congratulating Carol and Terry and wishing them nothing but continued success in all their future endeavors.

## HONORING JACKSON FRY

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 16, 2018*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jackson Fry. Jackson 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 1264, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jackson has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jackson 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, Jackson has become a Firebuilder in the tribe Mic-O-Say. Jackson has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jackson stenciled over 125 storm drains for the City of Lee's Summit to reduce flooding and pollution in their local lakes and streams.

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

IN MEMORY OF STEVEN ALLEN  
CHIPMAN**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 16, 2018*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Steven Chipman of Ellington, CT. Steven died this past March and we in Eastern Connecticut are at a loss. He was a patriot, protector, and family man.

Steven Allen Chipman was born and raised in Rockville, CT. A graduate of Rockville High School and Manchester Community College, Steven joined the Connecticut National Guard in 1986 and served until 1992. He also enjoyed a 23-year career with the Vernon Police Department, before opening his own firm, Innovative Investigators, LLC.

Although Steven wore many hats in his short life, I think "protector" would be the most fitting descriptor for this man who gave so much. He was a defender of his hometown and country and a loving father. He also had a gentle way with all people. His childhood friends describe him as the sort of person who looks out for the little guy. Steven was also incredibly patient—a quality he instilled in his children, Hunter and Jake, who very much consider their father a superhero.

Steven was a beloved member of his community, and he will be missed greatly by all of those who benefited from his loyalty and service, especially the residents of our hometown of Vernon. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in honoring Steven Chipman and expressing our deepest sympathies for his family and friends, and the eastern Connecticut region who lost a valued public servant.

CONGRATULATING DENISE  
CHAVARRIA**HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 16, 2018*

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Denise Chavarria of Santa Clara Pueblo in New Mexico for her role in the Pueblo Pottery Mug project and her success as a Native artist.

The Pueblo Pottery Mug project started as a collaboration between five Pueblo artists and the first Pueblo-owned Starbucks in New Mexico. The mugs were first sold in 2016 at the Starbucks store in Albuquerque. Each mug was hand-crafted by a different Pueblo artist to celebrate the opening of the new store and to symbolize the collaboration between New Mexico Pueblos and Starbucks. After quickly selling out of the unique mugs—selling over 6,000 mugs—the Shumakolowa gift shop collaborated with the artists to sell mugs at their location in the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center.

Ms. Chavarria comes from a long line of artists and potters. Inspired by her family's technique, she strives to continue making pottery according to ancient methods. Using clay from the hills where she lives, she delicately carves and paints her pieces.

Ms. Chavarria utilizes traditional hand-coiling methods to craft her pottery. She uses an open fire for red pots and other Pueblo methods of production to make black-on-black designs, depending on the finish she desires.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Denise Chavarria for being a part of the Pueblo Pottery Mug project. This project has given the community, as well as visitors to New Mexico, an opportunity to appreciate usable pieces of art that are inspired by Native culture and traditions. I look forward to seeing this project continue to flourish and support talented Native artists from Pueblos throughout New Mexico.

HONORING RONALD WESLEY EICK,  
JR.**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 16, 2018*

Mr. MIKE THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ronald Wesley Eick, Jr. on being selected as the Napa County Teacher of the Year and nominated as Napa County's nominee for California State Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Eick was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois along with his two younger siblings. He earned his Associate of Applied Science in General Education from Moraine Valley Community College. Mr. Eick served in the United States Air Force and was stationed at Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield, California. After being honorably discharged, he stayed in Northern California. He received his Associate of Applied Science in Electronics from the Community College of the Air Force and a Bachelor of the Arts in Mathematics and Education from Western Governors University. Mr. Eick also holds a Master's Degree in Educational Technology from Touro University.

Mr. Eick has been a mathematics teacher at American Canyon High School for the last nine years. Each day he strives to have every student in his classes understand the math he is teaching. He begins each day recognizing that students "don't care how much you know until they know how much you care." Mr. Eick tries to show his students how much he cares about their understanding of math and their well-being, frequently acting as a mentor, advisor and role model. He strives to show his students how to have strong character and live generously.

Mr. Eick is also the founder and advisor for Mu Alpha Theta, mentor and trainer for New Teacher Induction, advisor for Gay-Straight Alliance, assistant coach for the Robotics Club, leader in Math 2 Professional Learning Community and a site team member for Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID).

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Eick is an experienced and passionate educator who supports his students both inside and outside the classroom. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

TRIBUTE TO LINDA AND DEAN  
GRIFFITH**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 16, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Linda and Dean Griffith of Bridgewater, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on September 26, 2018.

Linda and Dean's lifelong commitment to each other truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Linda and Dean Griffith on this meaningful occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued happiness.

HONORING SHEILA TUCKER WITH  
CALIFORNIA'S THIRD DISTRICT  
WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 16, 2018*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sheila Tucker as a woman of the year. She is committed to improving her community both through her career and volunteerism. Ms. Tucker has served The Leaven organization faithfully as Vice President since 2014. Through her leadership the Leaven has become a national award-winning program providing after-school and summer tutoring for children living in underprivileged communities. The Leaven began with one center and has grown under Ms. Tucker's leadership to nineteen centers serving eight cities and will expand to twenty-five centers by the end of this