

the New Jersey Business & Industry Association; the Chemical Industry Council of New Jersey; United Way of Morris County; the Community Soup Kitchen; the Morris County Airport Advisory Committee; the Somerset Hills YMCA and other organizations.

In 2012, Paul was nominated by Governor Chris Christie and confirmed by the New Jersey State Senate to serve with six other commissioners on the Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC). PERC is a state administrative agency charged with administering the New Jersey Employer-Employee Relations Act. The agency deals with certain labor relations issues involving public employers, public employees, and unions that represent public employees.

Paul is a strong team player with a proven track record of successfully working with cross functional teams, and worked closely with Chamber staff, Cabinet members and general membership. His leadership has been invaluable to New Jersey and to the preservation and expansion of Picatinny Arsenal in Rockaway Township, and multiple programs that serve active duty servicemen and women, their families, and veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in congratulating Paul on the occasion of his retirement from the Morris County Chamber of Commerce.

HONORING RICHARD DAVIDIAN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the Pelham community of which I represent is very fortunate to have so many active and involved members working to improve the neighborhood. One of those individuals, Richard Davidian, has had an especially impactful role for students in Pelham's exceptional school system.

A long-time Pelham Civic Member and Officer, Rich, as he is better known, created and chaired one of the most successful programs in Pelham Civics' history—Help a Child, Change A Life Student Development Initiative. This revolutionary program focuses on students (K–12) from economically challenged households providing access to learning tools and skill development programs designed to move them closer to their true potential. Nothing like this had been done before, and the program rapidly grew across the entire district touching all the schools and grades.

The results were unprecedented—Elementary school students who were performing far below benchmark, were now performing at benchmark; Middle school and high school students who were failing multiple classes were now passing, and some were achieving honors, and high honor roll; Students were now attending advanced placement courses, and college courses. Rich was honored by the Board of Education with the Thomas B. Fenlon Award, which was usually given to retiring Board of Education members.

In addition, Rich chaired the Pelham Civics Good Neighbors Program for 12 years, where his exemplary diligence and attention to detail, combined with his compassion and commitment, was a tremendous source of comfort and hope. Rich is a Retired Partner of a global

consulting firm where he was a recognized thought leader in marketing and sales strategy. He and his wife Sona take great pride in their three daughters, two sons-in-law and first grandchild.

Rich is honored as humanitarian, visionary, and exemplary Pelham Civic. It is no wonder then why the Civics have decided to honor Rich at their 2018 Dinner Dance. He is most deserving of the recognition. I want to congratulate Rich on this wonderful honor and thank him for all he has accomplished on behalf of Pelham and its residents.

CONGRATULATING CHARLES DAVID WOODBURN

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2018

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Charles David Woodburn, Jr. on his retirement on November 2 after thirty-four years of distinguished service to this House.

Charles David "Dave" Woodburn, Jr. was first hired by former Clerk of the House Donn Anderson in September 1984 as a Sales Clerk in the Office Supply Store. He moved through the ranks of Special Order Clerk, Purchasing Department, to Inventory Control Specialist from 1984–2002. When the Chief Administrative Office underwent a reorganization, Dave joined the furniture organization.

Dave has always been recognized as a diligent and hard worker, with a strong work ethic. In the furniture organization he held many positions, including Supervisor and Manager for Receiving and Warehousing. Eventually, he was asked to serve as the Director of the Logistics and Distribution Department. This department was expanded to include Receiving and Warehousing, Logistics and Distribution, and Workflow Management. In addition to these duties, since 2008, Dave has played an integral role in the Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery (BCDR) team with the U.S. House of Representatives. His official title is Capability Manager, responsible for providing logistical support and furniture needs for all House emergency preparedness activities.

One notable contribution that Dave made to the House was his participation in the October 17, 2001 "Response Project" related to the anthrax incident on Capitol Hill. All Members, Committees, and Staff were able to be relocated to an alternate location, and Dave and his team were responsible for all logistical aspects of this project. He was commended for his contribution to this effort while ensuring that the business of the House went forward unhindered. Dave and his team have also been at the forefront of the Cannon Renewal Project since 2013. He received the CAO Knowledge Award, presented by Chief Administrative Officer Jay Eagan in 2007, for his extensive knowledge of the House and its operations.

Dave plans to spend his retirement years with his still very active parents, his wife of fourteen years, Marie, and his six children and ten grandchildren. He has said how much he is looking forward to returning to his hometown of Leonardtown, in Maryland's Fifth District, where he was born and raised, after a long and storied career with the House of

Representatives. Just as important as the work he performed over the years, Dave passed along his extensive logistics and furniture experience to his staff and coworkers as a mentor.

On behalf of the entire House, I congratulate Dave for his many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to this institution. I wish him many wonderful years of fulfillment with family and community in his retirement.

HONORING JOHN H. DIRZIUS ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2018

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the many family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered to extend my heartfelt congratulations to my dear friend, John H. Dirzius, as he marks his retirement from the American Postal Workers Union. In his nearly fifty years of union service, John has been a strong advocate for his members. His commitment and dedication have made a difference for thousands of working families and I have no doubt his leadership will be missed.

John began his postal career in the Post Office of Seymour, Connecticut in 1970. As one might remember, the 1970's were a transformative time in our culture with a number of unique fashion and hair trends for both men and women. Just two years into his postal career, John was issued a notice of removal for having, in the opinion of the local Postmaster, "long hair." Taking issue with the "reasoning" behind the notice for removal, John sought to file a union grievance and soon learned that working in such a small office did not offer the greatest of union representation. Eventually, John filed an EEOC complaint and won his job back—and it was this incident that marked the start of his 46-year career in the postal union.

In his earliest years, John played a major role in the merging of Seymour's small Local with that of the larger Local in New Haven, creating what would be the first of many Area Locals in the newly merged American Postal Workers Union. In 1973, John was appointed as a union organizer and within a few years, the New Haven Area Local was well on its way to becoming one of the largest in the APWU. Never forgetting his early roots as a postal worker in Seymour, John steadily rose through the ranks, serving in various leadership positions within the Local and State APWU. He served for over two decades as the President of the Greater Connecticut Area Local, representing postal workers employed in more than two-hundred facilities throughout the state, before his appointment as the Northeast Regional Coordinator—a position in which he has served for the last eight years.

John's commitment to the labor movement has extended far beyond the APWU. He has been an active member of the AFL–CIO, once serving as a State Federation Vice-President, he is a past Vice-President of the Greater New Haven CT Labor Council and has volunteered as a community mediator. In addition to all of this, John has also found the time to volunteer his time with numerous civic and youth

organizations including the United Way of Greater New Haven.

I have had the great honor of knowing and working with John for close to thirty years and I have been proud to stand with him in the fight to preserve his members' jobs as well as the health and retirement benefits they have earned. I would be remiss if I did not extend a personal note of thanks to him for his many years of friendship and support. He has been an extraordinary friend and his fierce commitment and dedication is an inspiration to all of us who have been fortunate enough to work with him.

The retirement of John H. Dirzius from the American Postal Workers Union marks the end of an era. I am honored to have this opportunity to stand and extend my deepest thanks and sincere appreciation to John for his outstanding service and unwavering commitment to our working families. I wish him; his wife, Diane; their children, Melisa, Jeffrey, and Gregory; and the apples of their eyes, their grandchildren, Makayla, Jacob, Tatiana, and Benjamin, all the best for many more years of health and happiness. Congratulations my friend—Auguroni.

HONORING MARY LYNN ROPER

HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2018

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Mary Lynn Roper. Mary Lynn has been a force for good in our community. She has blazed a trail for so many aspiring journalists in New Mexico.

Generations of young people will look to the example she set not only in her professional field, but also in the way she gave back to the community. Mary Lynn was instrumental in the launch of "KOATS for Kids," a clothing drive that helps children in New Mexico stay warm in the winters, and she spearheaded the "School Supply" program for schools and students in our region.

Her decades of service in the newsroom at KOAT have also made a tremendous impact. She ensured that the stories of the people of New Mexico were told and her legacy in the field of journalism will be lasting.

I want to personally congratulate Mary Lynn Roper on her retirement and thank her for her service in New Mexico.

I have no doubt that she will continue to make a difference in whatever the next adventure brings.

HONORING ANOOSH JORJORIAN WITH CALIFORNIA'S THIRD DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Anoosh Jorjorian as a woman of the year. She is the coordinator of Yolo Rainbow Families, a support group for families with gender nonconforming children. In her role as

coordinator, she advocates for policies that create identity safe-spaces at schools for children who identify as LGBTQ+. Committed to serving her community, she devotes a substantial amount of her time to help nurture inclusivity and awareness in Yolo County. Despite being a relative newcomer to Davis, Ms. Jorjorian quickly became involved in social justice issues from LGBTQ+ to immigrant rights, also founding Davis' local LGBTQ+ youth group. Consistently a visible presence at school board meetings, she has also been integral in organizing gender identity sensitivity trainings for the City of Davis' Parks and Recreation Department all while being a passionate advocate for better pay for teachers. She was instrumental in forming Safe in Yolo, a community group that helped author a county resolution declaring Yolo County a safe and welcoming place. Additionally, Ms. Jorjorian has been a regular speaker as a devoted member of the Davis Phoenix Coalition, a community group that is dedicated to preventing hate-motivated violence. Ms. Jorjorian is a dedicated community activist who never backs away from doing what is necessary to make our community a safer place. You can find her at community events, speaking at public meetings, or organizing for the next effort to move Davis forward; she has a heart of service that is clearly and consistently demonstrated by her activism in our community.

STATE DEPARTMENT IS COVERING FOR IRAN'S PROXIES

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Iran's network of terrorist proxies continues to expand across the Middle East. Wherever there is conflict and division, a militant group backed by Iran can be found. They have become powerful political and military actors in weak states because Tehran provides the money and weapons for them to murder and intimidate their way into power.

But what are we, the United States of America, doing about it? For one thing, we have finally re-applied sanctions on Iran after the terrible nuclear deal allowed these proxies to go well-funded and unchallenged. This allows us to target finances of the primary patron for chaos in the Middle East: Iran. But on the local level, in the multiple arenas where Tehran and its proxies are battling for control we are doing very little. Our own State Department has blocked any aggressive effort that would target some of Iran's most capable proxies. Why?

One of the most important arenas for competing against Iran's growing influence is in Iraq. That nation has seen nearly two decades of war, most recently with the fight against ISIS. Iran has exploited Iraq's chaos to raise several proxies that have killed Americans and Iraqis. While one of Tehran's earliest Iraqi proxies, Kataib Hezbollah, was designated as a foreign terrorist organization in 2009, others have operated with impunity. This includes two of the Iran's most powerful proxies: Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq (AAH) and Harakat Hezbollah al-Nujaba (HHN). In recent years these two militias have been the vanguard of Iran's activities

in the region, including sowing sectarian division in Iraq and fighting on behalf of the butcher Bashar al-Assad in Syria.

Yet when I introduced legislation that would designate AAH and HHN for terrorism—which nearly every expert agrees they are complicit in—the State Department has worked to shield these groups. U.S. Embassy staff in Baghdad was very dismissive of this legislation and ridiculed it. It seems to me that the embassy is ignorant of the threat of these groups that have American blood on their hands. Even one of these terrorist groups attacked the embassy after the embassy opposed the terrorist designation. Meanwhile, these groups have seized 15 seats in Iraq's parliament. So what has the state department accomplished other than obstruct Congressional lawmaking? Iraq is closer to being an Iranian client-state than ever before. The State Department should not join in with Iran and oppose this legislation.

President Trump has made clear that confronting Iranian expansionism is a key priority of his administration. But the State Department has instead adopted a strategy to protect Iran's proxies and undermine the American legislative process. We need our diplomats to be sending a strong signal that terrorist militias acting on behalf of Iran must not be taking power in Iraq. Now is a critical time in that country, with the Iraqi people in the streets demanding Iran out of their country. America should be standing with them, not with the Mullahs and their thugs.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING MANUEL PADILLA

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2018

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Manuel Padilla, Jr., on the occasion of his recent promotion. Mr. Padilla has been chosen to serve as the Director of the Joint Task Force West, Department of Homeland Security.

For more than 30 years, Mr. Padilla has served in the U.S. Border Patrol, working to create safer and more secure border communities. Most recently, he served as the Chief Patrol Agent of the Rio Grande Valley Border Patrol Sector and the Commander of the Joint Task Force-West, South Texas Corridor. Chief Padilla's dedication and determination will be greatly missed but I know he will continue to protect our communities, and our country as a whole, in his new position.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to represent someone as hard-working as Mr. Manuel Padilla, Jr. The South Texas community is thankful for his dedication not only to our country but also to border communities like ours. I wish him the best as he begins a new chapter of his life and thank him for his time.

HONORING KATHIE O'CALLAGHAN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, communities draw their strength from individuals who are willing