

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PETTY OFFICER VERONICA AILLIM
ALCAZAR

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Petty Officer Veronica Aillim Alcazar of Winslow Township, in New Jersey's First Congressional District.

Petty Officer Alcazar was a graduate of Camden County Technical Schools at Pennsauken, NJ Campus and graduated with the Class of 2010. She proudly served in the United States Navy since her enlistment in 2012.

Petty Officer Alcazar was the loving daughter of Consuelo "Connie" Alcazar and Jessie Lopez, beloved sister of Elizette Peralta, Dean Alcazar and Rosemary Alcazar, cherished granddaughter of William and Emerita Alcazar and Ernestina Lopez, adored niece of Alexander and Vianey Alcazar and William and Lucie Alcazar, loving cousin of Ethan and William III, and fiancé of Aamir Awad Muhammad.

Petty Officer Alcazar is by all accounts an American hero who selflessly served her country. Her service to the United States Armed Forces, sacrifice on behalf of the freedom of the United States of America and noble legacy will always be remembered. I ask you to join me in honoring the memory of this great American.

THANKING VETERAN ANNA LOUISE
RICHARDS KOENNING FOR
HER SERVICE DURING WWII

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude to a great woman for her military service, Mrs. Anna "Andy" Louise Richards Koenning. Andy is a 96-year-old Lieutenant Junior Grade veteran of World War II. During her service in the United States Navy, from 1945 to 1946, her efforts were instrumental in ensuring the safety of our nation's aircraft.

Andy was born in Ogden, Kansas in 1922. One of 8 siblings, she quickly learned the values of hard work and persistence. She spent time working for Beech Aircraft before joining the United States Navy in 1945 after being persuaded to pursue the opportunity by a close friend.

During her year of service, Andy traveled by train from Kansas to New York for basic training. She served by assisting other female cadets through their daily routine. Following this, she returned by train to Corpus Christi, Texas, where she spent time manufacturing tools and airline materials. It was here where she

worked alongside a predominantly male team that gave her the nickname "Andy", as well as where she met her husband, Eddie Lee Koenning. She was honorably discharged in 1946.

Andy currently resides in Deer Park, Texas, and thoroughly enjoys fishing and watching the Houston Astros. She and her husband have five daughters: Peggy Jones, Bobbie Koenning, Patty Mayes, Debbie Bragg, and Kathy Preston.

I thank Mrs. Koenning for her selfless military service to this great nation.

OATH OF CITIZENSHIP ON JULY 4,
2018

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate the fifty individuals who will take their oath of citizenship on July 4, 2018. In true patriotic fashion, on the day of our great Nation's celebration of independence, a naturalization ceremony will take place, welcoming new citizens of the United States of America. This memorable occasion, coordinated by the League of Women Voters of the Calumet Area and presided over by Magistrate Judge Andrew Rodovich, will be held at The Pavilion at Wolf Lake in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. The oath ceremony is a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On July 4, 2018, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Issam Marzouki, Jose Antonio Guzman Gonzalez, Bilin Yu, Gonzalo Vargas Lopez, Anna Anatolevna Olekminskaya, Onecima Duarte, Dominic Gikonyo Mburu, Jose Roberto Juarez Diaz, Masauko Joseph Chimayi, Krzysztof Twardus, Carryl Joice Ignacio Kyle, Christina Berthier, Griselda Montanez Serrano, Tchinga Harvey Ndalama, Jose de Jesus Zamora Pulido, Maria del Socorro Lopez, Heng Fu, Francis Josue Silfa Sena, Edgar Israel Castro Alvarez, Mona Samir Abdelhalim Mohamed, Solomon Elileojor Egbeama, Justyna Maria Oldham, Arman Bautista Villanueva, Ivana Twardus, Tai Trong Hoang, Clasido Aguilar, Adewale Sterling Ajibade, Lily Chen Banks, Sergio E. Castro, Gerardo del Real, Berenice Flores, Antonia Garcia, Olga Abril Gibson Cabrera,

Cesar Gonzalez, Mohamed Latif, Yogesh Maniar, Romelia Medina, Victor Manuel Mendoza, Alexander Jose Midence, Leticia S. Morris, Jane Wairimu Muchiri, Nicolas Nieto, Erika Valentina Palmerin, Heron Rodriguez, Porfirio Samaniego, Jacobo Sarabia, Angelina Serrano, Fatima Sheremetyeva, Abdou Rahmane Tamba, and Ben Van Vuong.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country "... of the people, by the people, and for the people." They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these fifty individuals who will become citizens of the United States of America on July 4, 2018, the anniversary of our Nation's independence. They, too, will be American citizens, guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

TRIBUTE TO RON McMASTER

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Californian Ron McMaster on his retirement after 38 years of outstanding contributions to American music.

In the heart of my Congressional district, near the famous intersection of Hollywood and Vine, stands the iconic Capitol Records Tower. It's fitting that many think the landmark building looks like a stack of records, as the building has produced some of our country's most notable and treasured recordings—from the Beach Boys to Pat Benatar and the Blue Note catalog. For 38 years, legendary vinyl mastering engineer Ron McMaster has called that Tower home and, thanks to his unique artistic talent, helped to make it the epicenter of the American Sound.

From his Audio Mastering studio on the ground floor, Ron McMaster takes studio recordings and—using a distinctive blend of math, science, technology, art, a touch of magic and years of unparalleled expertise—delicately fashions the masters used to create vinyl records, CD's and commercial online music products. If you've listened to the Beach Boys, Don McLean, Frank Sinatra, the Rolling Stones, the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Chet

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Baker, David Guetta, Radiohead, and countless others, you've witnessed his genius.

T-Bone Burnett, who worked with McMaster on the 2007 Grammy winning collaboration between Allison Krauss and Robert Plant, called Ron "the final aesthetic arbiter of the work. Ron, and the people who do what they do, are creative artists. They're closer to creative artists than technicians."

Ron has been nominated for Grammy awards in recognition of his artistic excellence. He's a member of the Los Angeles Chapter of The Recording Academy and widely recognized as one of the world's preeminent jazz mastering engineers.

McMaster's magical touch will be missed, but his legacy is cemented in the countless records he helped create. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Ron McMaster for his contribution to the American Soundtrack and wishing him all the best on his well-earned retirement.

RED ROCKS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the team from Red Rocks Community College on becoming a finalist for a fourth year in a row in the National Science Foundation's Community College Innovation Challenge. This program serves as an innovative way for community college students to partner with local industries to create pioneering STEM-based solutions for real world issues.

The Red Rocks team addressed the important challenge of helping the 250,000 Americans suffering with an anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury each year by designing BraceX, a low-cost solution to help patients stay mobile during recovery. BraceX is intended to reduce weight-bearing at the knee joint by using a passive spring system that bypasses the knee by transferring the weight to other parts of the leg during the walking cycle, helping patients quickly recover and return to their independence.

I congratulate the Red Rocks Team of Bradley Helliwell, Keegan Salankey, Logan Beford, Justin Nichols, Justin Troche, and their faculty advisor Liz Cox for their success. I applaud this group for their dedication to this important project and their leadership and commitment to STEM education. I am proud of the work Red Rocks Community College does every day and I look forward to seeing what the school and these students accomplish in the years to come.

COMMENDATION OF COL. JAMES G. PANGELINAN

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLÁN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

Mr. SABLÁN. Mr. Speaker, one of the reasons I have worked to increase the number of young people from the Mariana Islands who

can attend the U.S. military academies is because I believe the Marianas offer a wealth of talent that can add to the strength of our military.

A case in point is West Point graduate James G. Pangelinan, who just hit 22 years of active duty service on June 1 and who graduated from the Army War College on June 8 with a master of arts in strategic studies and distinguished graduate honors. At the same time Pangelinan was promoted to the rank of colonel. He is the first person from the Marianas to graduate from West Point and, I understand, the first from our islands to graduate from the Army War College.

I would like to review COL Pangelinan's distinguished career to date. Upon graduation from West Point with a bachelor of science degree in English literature and philosophy, he received his commission and began service. According to information from the U.S. Army, Pangelinan first was assigned as a rifle platoon leader and company executive officer in the 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment at Fort Lewis, Washington from 1997–99. He next served as an assistant operations officer with the Ranger Training Brigade at Fort Benning, Georgia from 2000–02. While assigned to Schofield Barracks, Hawaii from 2002–06, he served as a brigade and battalion assistant operations officer, commanded a rifle company in the 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, and deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

From 2006–08, Pangelinan was an Opposition Forces commander with the Battle Command Training Program at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. He deployed to Afghanistan, serving as a strategist in the NATO Training Mission Afghanistan in Kabul. From 2011–13, he served as the battalion executive officer of the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, Fort Carson, Colorado and deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. From 2013–14, Pangelinan served as the Brigade Rear Detachment commander of the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division. He commanded the 2nd Battalion, 58th Infantry Regiment at Fort Benning from 2014–16. Following battalion command, COL Pangelinan served on the Army Staff in the G–3/5/7 where he was responsible for the publication and execution of the Army Campaign Plan 2017.

Throughout this time Pangelinan continued his academic pursuits, earning a master of military art and science from the School of Advanced Military Studies and a Master of Arts in Security Studies from Kansas State University both in 2010.

Pangelinan's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Ranger Tab, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge, and Expert Infantryman Badge. He is the son of Dulce Pangelinan and Edward D.L.G. Pangelinan, who was the lead negotiator of the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America and who was the first person elected to represent the Marianas here in Washington.

COL Pangelinan begins a two-year stint in the Republic of Korea on the staff of U.S. Forces Korea in July to continue a career his

family and the Mariana Islands can all be proud of.

I salute COL James G. Pangelinan for his many achievements and thank him for his service.

IN APPRECIATION OF THE SERVICE OF WILSAR JOHNSON

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Wilsar Johnson for her dedicated service to the House of Representatives. As the Judiciary Committee's Democratic Digital Director, she kept us current through extensive social media engagement, creative branding, and storytelling.

Wilsar is a first generation Sierra Leonean-American immigrant and is also a proud recipient of the Diversity Visa Lottery program. Wilsar spent her formative years in Camden, New Jersey, and is a graduate of Georgian Court University.

As the Judiciary Committee's Democratic Digital Director, she kept us current through extensive social media engagement, creative branding and storytelling. She oversaw the minority's social media platforms and multimedia portfolio, including video production, live broadcasts, graphic design and photography. Wilsar is a founding Member of the first ever Congressional Democratic Digital Communications Staff Association, where she provides coaching and professional development to other Hill staff.

In addition to the Judiciary Committee, Wilsar has served in the offices of Representatives KAREN BASS of California, Rush Holt of New Jersey, and BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN of New Jersey.

Wilsar's charismatic attitude and dedication have made her an integral member of our team. I thank her for her service and wish her the best of luck as she starts a new journey in the upper body.

IN RECOGNITION OF CINDY MCCOWN

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Cindy McCown, a champion against hunger and for food security in our region. In her 34 years of work for the Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo counties, Cindy has seen first-hand that nutritious food is an essential ingredient to a healthy and productive life. In fact, Cindy created many of the programs that have made nutritious food accessible to tens of thousands of children, families and seniors in Northern California.

Cindy rose through the ranks at the food bank and over the years built strong relationships with policy makers to create a more robust hunger-safety net. I count myself as one of those lucky policy makers who had the honor to work with Cindy on key legislation, such as the Farm Bill. It was Cindy who convinced me to take the Food Stamp challenge