

Navneet Randhawa is a dedicated community servant who has routinely taken the time to reach out to people in need and bring communities together. In 2012 Navneet participated in the Sutter County Library's Citizenship Preparation class, where she learned of their Literacy Services Program. She was interested in the opportunity to give back to the library and volunteered a tutor for ESL students with the lowest reading levels. Colleagues and students alike attest to her friendly and welcoming manner as she provided critical assistance with the program. Navneet also worked tirelessly for Casa de Esperanza, a shelter, counseling, advocacy, and education facility for adult and child survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, child abuse, elder abuse, and human trafficking. Through her work as a bi-lingual counselor advocate she was instrumental in bridging the gap between the organization and her Southeast Asian community, helping Casa de Esperanza reach more people in need of their services. She also worked to help her colleagues better understand her culture so they could better serve the community. Though Navneet now works as a nurse, she continues to volunteer her time with Casa where she continues to make a positive difference in people's lives. Navneet's unique skill and compassion in bringing together communities and treating everyone with compassion is a joy and inspiration to everyone around her.

Margaret Renn has dedicated her life to educating children throughout her community. Margaret taught in elementary school classrooms for 16 years at schools in San Jose, Vallejo, and Fairfield before going on to serve as an elementary school principal in the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District for 16 more years. Now in retirement, Margaret continues her passion for education by volunteering with the Solano County Chapter of the California Retired Teachers Association. In addition to her many years of service as a public educator, Margaret now spends her free time serving special needs children and adults at the Horseplay Therapeutic Riding Center in Dixon, where she has been volunteering for five years, is one of two volunteer coordinators, and serves on their Board of Directors. Through her work at the Horseplay Therapeutic Center she has the privilege of getting to see special needs riders develop physical strength, social skills, and self confidence while expanding their horsemanship skills. Margaret has dedicated herself to the education and wellbeing of others and her service in the classroom and at the stables have had a lasting positive impact on her community.

Jenn Rexroad is a fierce advocate for children and families throughout our community. As the Founder and Executive Director of the California Alliance of Caregivers, Jenn consistently fights for the needs of at-risk foster care children. Jenn was instrumental in creating and implementing a policy agenda that advocated for the rights of foster children and played a vital role in establishing numerous projects important to children and families. Her work on the Resource Families' Policy Summit and the Mental Health Services Parent Stakeholder Engagement Project has furthered the goal of improving mental health services for all children and youth statewide. Her fervent advocacy has helped to create stronger protections and opportunities for those in need. Jenn is in position to continue her vital work by

serving as a First5 Yolo Commissioner and volunteering as the Child Welfare Policy Director for the organization Children Now. Her unbridled energy and concern for those in need are instrumental in creating a more caring and compassionate community. Her work on behalf of children and families in our community will have a lasting impact on generations to come.

Jen Roberts is a passionate activist whose strong and energetic leadership has had a real impact on her community. As founder of Indivisible Colusa, a local volunteer organization focused on engaging in progressive political advocacy, Jen has been tireless in creating ways for local community members to develop their voice. In doing everything from organizing postcard campaigns to composing the Indivisible Colusa newsletter, Jen has been relentless in pursuing ways for community members to engage in the political process on the local, state, and federal levels. She has been known to regularly open her home for meetings and debate watch parties. Her courageous, thoughtful, and principled leadership has allowed Indivisible Colusa to rapidly transform from its humble beginnings in 2017 to the lively and visible presence it is in the community today. Jen is also a founding member of the Colusa County Democratic Central Committee, which held its first meeting in February 2018. Kickstarting this process, Jen was integral in establishing a Democratic party committee in one of the few California counties that didn't already have one. Jen is tireless in her efforts to engage others and ensures that those in her community have a place to develop and express their beliefs while delving into the democratic process.

I congratulate each of them and commend them for their work. I am inspired by them and firmly believe when women succeed, America succeeds.

TRIBUTE TO ANN AND VINCE BELLIS

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Ann and Vince Bellis of Greenville, North Carolina.

In October of this year they were honored by the Friends of Greenville Greenways for their efforts to champion, create, and expand the family-friendly walking, running and biking space. They have given countless hours over several years to the fulfillment of this community-enhancing project.

This couple have been honored for a lifetime of civic engagement, their incredible technical knowledge of the environment including a plethora of horticultural expertise and for unselfishly sharing that knowledge with the community.

Many citizens of Greenville daily enjoy the Greenway and I applaud the work of the Bellis' in making what was once just an idea into a beautiful reality for the betterment of our city.

IN HONOR OF JULIO BALSERA

HON. DONNA E. SHALALA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Julio Balsera, the extraordinary Cuban activist. He passed away last month at the age of 80.

Born in Havana in 1939, Mr. Balsera spent his early years fighting the Castro regime. He fled Cuba by hiding inside the kitchen cabinets of a cargo ship bound for Caracas in 1960, and in 1963, he made his way to Miami.

Mr. Balsera continued his activism in South Florida. He founded the J. Balsera School Bus Service, which offered children rides to school. Through this business, Mr. Balsera became a key figure in the burgeoning Cuban-American community. He got to know the schoolchildren who rode his buses and their families, and he was always happy to provide vote recommendations. He also sent his buses to mobilize voters ahead of elections and to help Cubans arriving in Florida during the Mariel exodus.

Mr. Balsera sold his bus company after four decades of business, but he continued his activism, leading the charge to recall former Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Alvarez in 2011. He was also a founding member of the Cuban American National Foundation.

Julio Balsera's influence can be seen at nearly every level of government in the greater Miami area, and his legacy of speaking truth to power will be felt for years to come. I'm proud to recognize his contributions to our South Florida community.

HONORING SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS SCHOOL FOR BEING NAMED A NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Saints Cyril and Methodius School in Lemont, Illinois, for receiving the prestigious 2019 U.S. Department of Education National Blue Ribbon School Award. The school was recognized under the Exemplary High Performing Schools category.

In 1982, the U.S. Department of Education established the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program to recognize public and private schools boasting high or significantly improved achievement. I am proud that Saints Cyril and Methodius School has been honored as one of those exceptional schools.

Saints Cyril and Methodius School has long been a fixture of the Village of Lemont having been founded at the same time as the parish in 1884. The mission of Saints Cyril and Methodius School is to provide an excellent Catholic education in a compassionate environment that strives to develop each student spiritually, academically, physically, and emotionally. The school offers an integrated set of courses to motivate students to understand the connection between the classroom and living one's faith. Students are challenged with a

rigorous and engaging curriculum which includes technology, art, Spanish, physical education, and music classes.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Saints Cyril and Methodius School for being honored with this National Blue Ribbon School Award. This impressive achievement is a well-deserved recognition of all the work done by Principal Shirley Tkachuk, Reverend Waldemar "Valdi" Stawiarski, teachers, school staff, students, parents, and parishioners.

HONORING THE LIFE OF EDWARD WALTER HOSTETTLER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the life of Edward Walter Hostettler, who passed away on October 22, 2019. Edward served our nation with honor and selflessness and will be missed by many in the community.

Edward Walter Hostettler was born on December 17, 1920 in Sugarcreek, Ohio. He attended Ohio State University on a 4-year academic scholarship and was a member of the ROTC program. In 1943, he graduated with an agriculture degree and joined the United States Army, serving during World War II. He served in Germany, Belgium, France, and Luxemburg. He was assigned to the Artillery, Tank Destroyer, Infantry and Calvary Branches as a Lieutenant. In 1945 Edward was assigned to the 7th Army War Crimes Court and was then transferred to a Constabulary Unit. Edward returned home in June of 1946 and was honorably discharged in September of 1946.

Upon his return to civilian life he began teaching in Orville, Ohio, before meeting the love of his life, Merry Belle Groff. The two married in Clearfield, Pennsylvania on December 10, 1947. After honeymooning in California, Edward and Merry made it their permanent home. Together they were the proud parents of Greg, Rory and Suzanne.

Edward and Merry initially lived in Los Angeles where Edward worked as a dairy inspector. Eventually they moved to California's Central Valley. Edward worked for the Chowchilla Water District and Cal Farm Insurance. The family moved to Dos Palos in Merced County in 1964 and eventually opened their own real estate brokerage, Hostettler Real Estate. Edward also supported his wife's entrepreneurship, as she was the proud owner of House of Hostettler Antiques.

Edward always enjoyed being surrounded by family and making new memories with his children and grandchildren. The family frequently vacationed together, creating lifelong memories. He was a man of strong faith and believed in helping others in need. Edward could always be found watching his Ohio State Buckeyes on Saturday afternoons.

Edward is preceded in death by his beloved wife of 70 years Merry Belle, his brother Richard Hostettler, and his daughter-in-law Cathie Hostettler.

He is survived by his sons Greg and Rory Hostettler of Los Banos, California, daughter Suzanna Hostettler Rider of Fresno, California,

four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Edward Walter Hostettler. His presence in the community will be greatly missed. I join his family and friends in honoring his great life.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF W. GEORGE ALLEN

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life and legacy of my dear friend, W. George Allen, a selfless member of our community who spent his life serving others. I had the great privilege of working alongside George as his law partner for many years. Throughout his more than four-decade career practicing law, he established himself as one of our state's most influential civil rights advocates. I will never forget the years we spent working together to fight and end segregation in Broward County.

George was born in Sanford, Florida in 1936. He attended Florida A&M University and received his Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science with a minor in Economics, before continuing his education at the University of Florida Law School, where he became the first African American to receive a Juris Doctor degree.

Between 1958 and 1960, George served in the United States Army as a special agent in the Counter Intelligence Corps, before being honorably discharged at the rank of First Lieutenant. Following his military service, George was accepted into law school, where he became involved in social activism by organizing lunch counter sit-ins around Gainesville, Florida. After graduating and being admitted to the Florida Bar Association, he decided to open his own firm in Fort Lauderdale. Here he practiced for forty-two years, specializing in trial work, probate, personal injury, insurance defense and wrongful death.

Throughout his career, George was recognized time and again for his hard work and dedication to those around him. He was a member of the Urban League of Broward County, the NAACP, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc, the University of Florida Foundation, and the Florida Bar Association. He also served as the Broward County Bar Association's president. Additionally, he received numerous awards for his achievements, including the University of Florida Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2000, and the National Conference for Community and Justice Silver Medallion Award in 2001. In 2003, George was inducted into the National Bar Association's Hall of Fame, and in February of 2005, Governor Jeb Bush appointed him to the Florida A&M University's Board of Trustees.

Madam Speaker, W. George Allen was a champion for our community and positively impacted the lives of all those he met. He was a South Florida icon, whose life and legacy has left an indelible mark on our state and nation. I want to extend my deepest condolences to his children, Jonathan, Timothy, Frederick, and Amy Carole and the entire Allen family during this heartbreaking time. W. George

Allen was a blessing to our community. I am so truly honored to have called him my friend. He will be dearly missed.

HONORING LINDY LEE GOLD ON THE CELEBRATION OF HER 75TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is my great privilege to rise today to join the family, friends and colleagues who have gathered in celebration of Lindy Lee Gold as she marks her 75th Birthday—a remarkable milestone for this very special member of the New Haven community.

As a Senior Specialist with the Connecticut State Department of Economic and Community Development, a position she had held since 1998, Lindy has dedicated her professional career to expanding opportunities for Connecticut's businesses and its workforce. However, there are few members of the New Haven community who have been more involved with the City's many facets than Lindy. She is perhaps most well known for her dedication and tireless advocacy efforts—from the arts to education, local government to community development, Lindy has played a critical role in New Haven's success.

Lindy's foray into public service began with her appointment to New Haven's Board of Education where she was vice chair of the Intergroup Relations Taskforce. She went on to win election for two terms on New Haven's Board of Alders representing the 26th Ward where she served as chair of the Legislation Committee and as a member of the Finance Committee.

Lindy currently serves as board chair of the Gateway Community College Foundation, a position she has held for the last decade, as a Fellow at Yale's Pierson College, and as a member of the Executive Board of the Shubert Performing Arts Center. She is also a board member of the United Way of Greater New Haven, the Community Action Agency, New Haven Arts Council, Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, and the New Haven Manufacturers Association. She also was founder and the first female president of Fellowship Inc, and Cornerstone Inc., and is past president of the Jewish Community Center of Greater New Haven.

Lindy's civic contributions are hardly limited to New Haven. In addition to her many contributions to our fair City, she serves on a multitude of organizations across the state. Lindy is Vice-President of the Jewish Federation Association of Connecticut as well as a member of the state board of the Anti-Defamation League. She also holds board memberships with the Housatonic Community College Foundation, Southern Connecticut State University Foundation, JobLinks Fairfield County, Connecticut Technical High Schools, and the Women's Business Development Center.

Lindy's commitment is extraordinary and she has built a legacy of service which serves as an inspiration to many. Advocate, mentor, and friend, wherever Lindy goes she makes an impact. Her endless energy and dedication make all the difference. I, like so many others,