

IN HONOR OF JULIE SCHWIETERT  
COLLAZO

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 25, 2019*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I, along with Representative OCASIO-CORTEZ, rise to recognize Julie Schwiertert Collazo who received a women's history month award from us and from Assemblywoman Aravella Simotas at a ceremony in Queens on March 22nd. Ms. Schwiertert Collazo is being recognized for her part in founding Immigrant Families Together, which works to support families in danger of being separated by anti-immigrant policies.

In June 2018, along with her husband, Francisco Collazo, she founded what has evolved into Immigrant Families Together (IFT), an organization of rapid response volunteers who fight back against punitive immigration policies, including zero tolerance and family separation, that have traumatized the nation's diverse population. IFT was created when a group of mothers learned about Yeni Gonzalez, a Guatemalan immigrant who was jailed in Arizona because she could not post bond, and whose three children were taken to New York. Ms. Gonzalez could not put together the \$7500 needed to secure her release. When Ms. Schwiertert Collazo and others heard about her plight, they raised the money to pay her bail and then helped transport her to New York, arranging for her to sleep at the homes of volunteers. They eventually helped her gain full custody of her children, and found her shelter, food and legal counsel.

In six short months, almost entirely through social media, Ms. Schwiertert Collazo and IFT raised nearly a million dollars. IFT now provides funding to pay bonds to secure the release of other immigrants facing deportation, and often donates critical funding to cover living expenses, medical costs and legal fees. To date they have posted bond for more than 65 parents, grandparents, and older siblings who had been detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement and separated from their families. They also provide ongoing support and services for families who have filed asylum applications so that they can build healthy, stable lives while their applications are being processed.

As a result of her work with Immigrant Families Together, Ms. Schwiertert Collazo has become a much sought-after speaker and commentator on immigration policy, migration, and resettlement issues.

Ms. Schwiertert Collazo is a former social worker and creative arts therapist, who is currently working as a writer, editor, and translator. She left the field of social work and psychotherapy in 2004 to live abroad and to focus on her own writing full-time. She has interviewed the First Lady of Belize and the Spanish chef Ferran Adria, has covered the state visit of Prince Harry in Belize, and in 2008 was one of the few journalists permitted to visit the U.S. detention facility at Guantanamo Bay. She co-wrote/edited a book about Pope Francis, which to date has been translated into more than a dozen languages and is a bestseller in Italy.

Madam Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us in recognizing the compassionate work

Julie Schwiertert Collazo and Immigrant Families Together are doing to help recent immigrants achieve their American dream.

HONORING DENNIS L. PATILLO

**HON. MICHAEL CLOUD**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 25, 2019*

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Dennis L. Patillo.

On January 16, the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) board of directors elected Dennis L. Patillo, of Victoria, as chairman of the nine-member governing body. The GBRA was established in 1933, and serves as a steward of water resources for ten counties, including, Calhoun, DeWitt, Refugio, and Victoria counties.

Mr. Patillo is the owner of the PumpHouse Riverside Restaurant and Bar in Victoria, Texas. In addition, he is the president of Stewart Title of the Coastal Bend Inc. and president of Evangelynn Hospitality LLC.

The GBRA first appointed Mr. Patillo to the board of directors in 2011. Mr. Patillo's participation and service in the district is noteworthy. He is the past chairman of the Victoria Economic Development Corporation, the Texas Association of Realtors, and the Houston Association of Realtors. Mr. Patillo served on the Texas Tax Reform Commission, the University of Houston Commission on Downward Expansion, the DeTar Healthcare System, and the Victoria County Airport Commission.

I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to Dennis L. Patillo on becoming chair of the GBRA, as well as my thanks for his years of dedication to the people of Victoria and the 27th District of Texas.

COMMERCE CITY BUSINESS APPRECIATION 2018 AWARD—OLD DOMINION FREIGHT LINE INC.

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 25, 2019*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Old Dominion Freight Line Inc. for receiving Commerce City's Business Appreciation 2018 Business on The Move Award.

The Business of the Year Award is given to a Commerce City company with a pioneering spirit that has shown a history of leadership within its industry and the community. Old Dominion Freight Line has demonstrated longevity and sustained growth within the community. Old Dominion Freight Line is a less-than-truckload (LTL) motor carrier providing regional, inter-regional and national LTL service and value-added logistics services.

Old Dominion Freight Line built its Commerce City service center in 1997, expanded in 2016 and then expanded again in 2018. These renovations accommodate the tremendous growth in the Colorado marketplace, making the service center the most advanced service center in the Denver Metro area and enabling the company to expand its customer base both locally and globally.

The facility employs 330 people, 26 of which were hired because of service center growth. All of these employees have future growth potential within Old Dominion Freight Line. I extend my deepest congratulations to Old Dominion Freight Line Inc. for this well-deserved recognition from Commerce City.

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF VETERANS ADVOCATE AND AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY LEADER DALE "ANN" MORAN

**HON. JENNIFER WEXTON**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 25, 2019*

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of the late Dale "Ann" Moran, a dedicated and selfless advocate for the veterans community across the Commonwealth of Virginia, especially here in Virginia's 10th Congressional District.

Ann was an active member of the American Legion Auxiliary, unit 293 of Purcellville, VA for 35 years. Mrs. Moran truly lived the Auxiliary motto, "Service, Not Self". Ann demonstrated this commitment through her tremendous leadership over the course of her time with the Auxiliary. Her roles included the Department Historian for the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Virginia, 2-time Northern Zone Vice President, and multiple chairmanships. She served as the 16th District President and held various chairmanships at the district level. In her home office, Unit 293, Ann at one time served in every office, in every chairmanship, and served as a mentor to countless members. She played a major role in the Unit's successes at the Department and National Level, including receiving national awards for her Department Chairman reports.

In addition to her various leadership positions, Ann played an important role in directly assisting veterans through her work as a Veteran Service Officer where she worked with veterans in identifying and correcting a need, and helped them obtain the services that they had earned. She also established the "Blanketing Veterans with Love" initiative. Through this initiative Ann enlisted the involvement of her family, friends, and community to craft more than 300 blankets for veterans returning from combat. Ann also worked with the Martinsburg Vet Center to bring a satellite vet center to Loudoun County, and was a tireless supporter of Boulder Crest retreat, a local retreat for Military, Veterans, and their families. Ann was also a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother. Her legacy lives on through her husband, Thomas R., and son Thomas D. Moran, daughter in law Shannon, and two grandchildren. Mrs. Moran was also a 25-year employee of the Loudoun County School system.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in recognizing the outstanding contributions that Mrs. Ann Moran so graciously made to our veterans, our district, the commonwealth, and nation. While we join her family in mourning her loss, we stand today to celebrate her commitment and legacy, on behalf of a grateful nation.

## RECOGNIZING THE 84TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CULINARY UNION

**HON. STEVEN HORSFORD**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 25, 2019*

Mr. HORSFORD. Madam Speaker, I ask that this body recognize the Culinary Union's 84th Anniversary.

Since 1935, the Culinary Union has improved the lives of hundreds of thousands of Nevada hospitality workers and their families. Its continued fight to secure good benefits and union wages for its members have made it an essential economic institution in the Silver State.

The Culinary Union can rightfully claim that it has won a "middle-class standard of living" for more than 700,000 hospitality workers during its 84 years. Its guest room attendants, cocktail and food servers, porters, bellmen, cooks, bartenders, laundry and kitchen workers hail from 178 different countries and speak 40 different languages.

I'm proud of the work this union has accomplished.

## CONGRATULATING NORMA EHRIK

**HON. MICHAEL CLOUD**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 25, 2019*

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Norma Ehrig of Gonzales, Texas, for receiving the David B. Walshak Lifetime Achievement Award.

The 97th Annual Gonzales Chamber of Commerce banquet recognized Mrs. Ehrig for her exceptional community engagement. Her friends and colleagues vouched for her much deserved recognition.

Mrs. Ehrig's involvement in the community has tremendously affected the lives of the youth. At Gonzales East Avenue Primary School, she counsels students and assists disadvantaged children.

Mrs. Ehrig's commitment includes providing funds for these underprivileged kids to buy food and clothing when their families are not there to support them. And as Mrs. Ehrig is never one to seek recognition, her family was not even aware of her financial contributions to help those less fortunate. Her family embraced her selfless acts and appreciated the way in which she devoted herself to helping the community.

Mrs. Ehrig has also assisted Gonzales' Child Protective Services; she helped raise funding for essential examination equipment to investigate severe child abuse. With her help, the city established the Gonzales Regional Child Advocacy Center.

To honor her, the board members renamed the center as "Norma's House" in 2001 and recognized her as a permanent board member.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to Mrs. Ehrig and recognize her tremendous service in the Gonzales community.

## COMMERCE CITY BUSINESS APPRECIATION 2018 AWARD—STILLWATER DAY SPA

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 25, 2019*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Stillwater Day Spa for receiving Commerce City's Business Appreciation 2018 Business on The Move Award.

The Business on the Move Award recognizes businesses bringing new employment, growth in sales or new capital investment to the city in the last year. Entrepreneurs Lewis Ortiz and Michael Bertles see nothing but potential in the Commerce City and work hard to provide needed services to the community. Their work began with Heart and Soul Floral providing floral services to more recently providing health and wellness services in the northern range with the Stillwater Day Spa.

Stillwater Day Spa offers a full range of spa services including massage, facials, waxing, fillers, injections, and more. Since opening in October 2017, the company has steadily increased its product and service offerings and has doubled in size to accommodate the growing business. Stillwater Day Spa supports other local entrepreneurs and small businesses by selling their products at the spa, partnering with them on monthly giveaways, and leasing out space within their suite to another small business as well.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Stillwater Day Spa for this well-deserved recognition from Commerce City.

## IN RECOGNITION OF CARLOS JOSE CARRANCO, SR.

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 25, 2019*

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Mr. Carlos Jose Carranco, Sr.

Mr. Carranco was born and raised in Laredo, TX. He attended Martin High School and eventually served as a combat infantryman during World War II. He proudly served his country and was honorably discharged in May of 1946.

After the war, Mr. Carranco graduated from Laredo Junior College before attending Texas A&I, known today as Texas A&M University-Kingsville, where he received his bachelor's degree in education and master's degree in education administration. Mr. Carranco later made an impact educating his local community for 42 years as a secondary school teacher and at Laredo Community College. He also served as a Principal at both Thomas Sanchez Elementary School and Santa Maria Elementary School in Laredo; together comprising 26 years of his educational career.

Mr. Carranco was a well-respected individual who led a life of service. He was a steward of the Laredo community through teaching and helping others reach their full potential. His dedication to others demonstrates what it really means to be an American.

Mr. Carranco is survived by his wife of 15 years, Bessie Lee Carranco, his brother Antonio Carranco, as well as several children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

## HONORING DR. MARY WILLIAMS URGENT AND PRIMARY CARE OF CLARKSDALE, MS

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 25, 2019*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Mary Williams.

Dr. Mary Williams was born to Albert and Emma Williams. She is the ninth child of ten children. Six sisters: Dorothy, Olivia, Sherlie, Maretta, Deleatha, and Chrystal and three brothers: Morris, Jeffrey, and Donald. Mary was raised in Marks, Mississippi. She is the owner of Urgent and Primary Care of Clarksdale, Mississippi, the first Urgent Care clinic to be opened in Clarksdale, Mississippi. Dr. Mary Williams is recognized amongst family, her community, and her colleagues as a woman of integrity, service, compassion, and outstanding spirit.

Dr. Williams attended and graduated from Quitman County High School. After earning her high school diploma (1987), Northwest Community College, where she earned her Associate Degree in Nursing, Delta State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing and then attended Mississippi University for Women where she received her Master of Science Degree. With her commitment to becoming the best in her field, she attended the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in 2011, where she received her Doctor of Nursing Degree with a major in Forensic Nursing.

Dr. Williams is also a Board-Certified Family Nurse Practitioner at Northwest MS Regional Medical Center, where her specialty is Renal Disease and Hypertension Management. She has spent her entire life building strong working relationships in the healthcare field and educating people on the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Dr. Williams owned and operated Clarksdale's first locally owned hospice agency in 2001 thru 2007. She holds licenses to practice as a Nurse Practitioner in the state of Mississippi and Tennessee. She is also a member of the Mississippi Nurses Association, American Nurses Association, American Association for Nurse Practitioners and the National Kidney Foundation.

Dr. Williams has been named one of the Top 50 Mississippi Leading Business Women in the state of Mississippi. She has received numerous awards in healthcare. She credits all of her achievements to her strong foundation in God. She is a member of St. Matthew Church of God in Christ and an active member of Iota Delta Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. where she currently serves as President.

Dr. Williams is the proud mother of two children, Ebony and Andre, and four grandchildren. Dr. Williams' leadership, passion, dedication, dependability, and service have made her synonymous with being one of the best, if not the best Family Nurse Practitioners