

Program (RSVP), she recruited, trained, and assigned volunteers to designated sites. She also served as Family Service Advocate for the Wayne County Family Center, facilitating, and expediting adaption to independent living arrangements for residents and aided with placement and health care services. Ms. Everett spearheaded the “No Family Without Christmas” program, collecting donations for the homeless during the winter holiday season.

Prior to that work, Ms. Everett served in many other roles in the community, including as a representative on the Community Development Commission and as a Wayne County community liaison to prevent and assist homeowners facing mortgage foreclosures. Through her work with the Southeast Westland Homeowners Association (SWHA), Ms. Everett founded the SWHA Community Center, where for many years, she operated an after-school program for young people. She was an active member of the St. James United Methodist Church, where she served as chairperson of the Outreach Committee and on the Pastor Parish Relations Committee.

Please join me in recognizing the many contributions of Ms. Reasther Everett to Westland, Wayne County, and 13th District Strong, as we give honor to her memory.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JULIA  
NESHEIWAT

**HON. MICHAEL WALTZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 2021*

Mr. WALTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and career of combat veteran and public servant Dr. Julia Nesheiwat, who has devoted her entire life in service to this country and by every metric, exemplifies duty, honor, and the American Dream.

Born to Ben and Hayat Nesheiwat, Jordanian immigrant parents who worked tirelessly to provide for her and her four siblings, Dr. Nesheiwat graduated from Stetson University. She then went on to earn her M.A. in security studies from Georgetown University, Washington D.C. and a Ph.D. from the Tokyo Institute of Technology in Japan. Dr. Nesheiwat is a lifelong member of the Council on Foreign Relations and served on the Governing Advisory Council for the World Economic Forum.

After the September 11 attacks, Dr. Nesheiwat was immediately deployed in the U.S. Army military intelligence corps. She served multiple tours in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom in Afghanistan and Iraq for which she was awarded the Bronze Star Medal. Dr. Nesheiwat subsequently was selected to serve on the U.S. Presidential Commission on Intelligence Capabilities Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction, leading the North Korea and Iran policy steering committee.

She went on to help establish the newly formed office of the Director of National Intelligence as the Chief of Staff for policy and planning, where she managed the integration and collaboration of analysis and reporting with all intelligence agencies.

During her time at the Department of State, Dr. Nesheiwat served as the first Deputy As-

sistant Secretary for Energy where she built a new bureau that addressed the nexus of energy, climate, technology, development, international programs, and public-private partnerships. She then collaborated with the Department of Defense to create a new curriculum on energy security as a visiting professor at the Naval Post Graduate School.

Dr. Nesheiwat continued her call to service as the first U.S. Deputy Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs focused on the release of U.S. citizens legally detained or held hostage abroad. Dr. Nesheiwat’s diplomatic work was instrumental in the release of dozens of Americans illegally held overseas as well as her work with the families of those detained.

Returning to her home state of Florida, Dr. Nesheiwat was appointed by Governor Ron DeSantis to serve as Florida’s first Chief Resilience Officer, a cabinet-level position tasked with preparing Florida for the environmental, physical, and economic impacts of sea level rise.

In 2020, Dr. Nesheiwat once again answered the call to serve, this time in the White House as Deputy Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Resilience. At such a perilous time in our nation’s history, she brought her extensive expertise on national security and resilience to develop strategies to help protect America against the COVID pandemic, natural disasters, critical infrastructure protection, foreign election interference, civil unrest, counter-narcotics, and wildlife and trafficking crimes.

Dr. Nesheiwat was later appointed to serve a four-year term as a Commissioner on the U.S. Arctic Research Commission. The Commission is an independent federal agency that advises the President and Congress on domestic and international Arctic research. She is also a Distinguished Fellow with the Atlantic Council with the Global Energy Center.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the lifelong servant leadership of Dr. Julia Nesheiwat and her career spanning the Bush, Obama, Trump, and Biden Administrations. She has brought great credit to her country and we thank her as she continues to serve the American people.

RECOGNIZING JOE EDMONSON AND  
FAMILY

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 2021*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Mr. Joe Edmonson who has been named Mississippi’s Farmer of the Year by the Sunbelt Agriculture expo. I am proud to have him representing our state.

Joe has been a motivated and passionate farmer for his entire life. At the age of fifteen, he purchased his first forty acres of land. Both Joe and his wife Melissa grew up in farming families and have dedicated their lives to Topshaw farms. Melissa is a full partner in the farms and is an essential figure in the Vardaman Sweet Potato Festival. Their daughter, Brandi also works in the business side of the farm. Her husband, Shaun manages the packing warehouse line. Son Trent oversees planting and harvesting, and his wife

is a nurse who aids in minor medical incidents around the farm. Son Cody manages sweet potato planting and grain harvesting and his wife Lindsey works in the packing warehouse offices and manages H2A work.

The farm has endured multiple natural disasters that affected their crop and livestock. The Edmonson family has taken these hardships as opportunities to expand and built an impressive packing facility. They have taken into stride changes in agriculture technology and continue to evolve with the modern world. Joe and his family contribute to their surrounding community through the Boy Scouts, Vardaman FFA, Calhoun County 4-H and the state Farm Bureau.

Family is at the core of Mr. Edmonson’s farming career. Joe, Melissa, Brandi, Trent and Cody have been a pillar of the Vardaman community and have made incredible contributions to Calhoun County. I am grateful for their lifetime of service and commend him for his outstanding work in agriculture.

HONORING THE CAREER OF JOSIE  
BACALLAO

**HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 2021*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize the tremendous career and meaningful work of Josie Bacallao, President & CEO of Hispanic Unity of Florida.

Founded 39 years ago as a haven for immigrants and refugees, Hispanic Unity of Florida has grown to serve diverse and multi-cultural working families from the United States as well as more than 25 other countries.

Under Ms. Bacallao’s leadership, the agency provides a range of wrap-around services to help more than 16,000 clients of all ages, from preschoolers to adults, successfully transition to a productive new life.

Hispanic Unity of Florida acts as South Florida’s “Ellis Island” for new immigrants arriving in South Florida. Often arriving with little more than the clothes on their backs, a few dollars in pocket change, with no job, language, skills or understanding of the life that awaits them on America’s shores—they still come with hopes and dreams.

And Josie works tirelessly to guarantee everyone is empowered to live their American Dream.

Her commitment to strengthening the physical and financial health and wellness of Florida’s families is extensive, impressive, and inspiring.

Josie Bacallao is a selfless, compassionate, and thoughtful citizen whose commitment to our community is exemplary, and I am proud to call her my dear friend. I wish her a hearty congratulations on her retirement and am grateful for her invaluable work to improve the lives of those in Florida’s 23rd Congressional District and beyond.

TRIBUTE TO OLYMPIC WRESTLER  
DAVID TAYLOR

**HON. JIM JORDAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 2021*

Mr. JORDAN. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize David Taylor for his outstanding wrestling performance at the Tokyo Olympic Games.

At the age of 8, David wrote down three goals: Win four high school state titles, win four college national championships, and win Olympic gold. Even at this young age, he had his mind set on objectives that would take countless hours of practice and dedication to accomplish.

David wasted no time on his mission, amassing an impressive 180–2 high school record, including four state championships, and graduated with a 4.0 grade point average from my alma mater, Graham High School in St. Paris, Ohio. He would then go on to become one of the most decorated wrestlers in Penn State University's history: Four Big Ten championships, a four-time finalist and two-time NCAA National Champion, and twice the winner of the Dan Hodge Trophy, given to the undisputed best college wrestler in the nation.

He then fixed his eyes on his final objective: Winning Olympic gold. With 17 seconds remaining in the gold medal match in Tokyo, Taylor scored a two-point takedown to give him his 52nd straight victory in international matches. David said afterward: "You've got to want it. You've got to want to be here."

David married the love of his life, Kendra, five years ago. Last month, on September 16, they welcomed baby Ivy into the world. David's parents, Dave and Kathy, currently reside in Chattanooga.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I am honored to celebrate David's accomplishments, his dedication to the sport of wrestling, his integrity and work ethic, and his outstanding contributions to the Olympic tradition. We wish him all the best in the future.

RECOGNIZING MISS KAYLYNN  
GONZALES

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 2021*

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Miss Kaylynn Gonzales for her beautification of Valley Animal Haven in Lemoore, California.

Miss Gonzales is a Girl Scout Cadette from Hanford, California. This year, she led a team in beautifying Valley Animal Haven, a local pet adoption center. For this project, Miss Gonzales taught herself to paint and draw. Together, her team created and painted wooden cartoon animals for the facility's meet and greet pens. She also restored aging tables, chairs, and benches in the visitor's areas and installed new bark mulch in the meet and greet area. Miss Gonzales raised money to fund this project by selling cookies and collecting donations.

Miss Gonzales selected this project because she is committed to raising awareness for re-

sponsible pet ownership and the importance of adopting from local shelters. In beautifying Valley Animal Haven, Miss Gonzales hopes to encourage more adoptions from the shelter. Her work is greatly appreciated by the Valley Animal Haven community and those who share her honorable mission.

In recognition of her efforts, Miss Gonzales was awarded the Girl Scout Silver Award by the Girl Scouts of the USA, Central California South Council, Troop 3049. This is the highest honor a Girl Scout can receive at the Cadette level.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Miss Kaylynn Gonzales on this important achievement and recognizing her service to her community.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT  
OF OFFICER ROBIN W. BLOSS

**HON. SCOTT PERRY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 2021*

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I am privileged and humbled to recognize Officer Robin W. Bloss upon the occasion of his retirement from the Penbrook Borough Police Force after more than thirty years of service.

Officer Bloss began his journey as a Paxtang Borough Police Officer upon completion of Officer Training at the PA State Police Training Center in Hershey. Despite his recent introduction to the Force, he managed to remain employed full-time as a maintenance electrician with the Ames Companies Inc., while working 20-hour weeks with the Department.

Officer Bloss later transitioned to the Penbrook Borough Police Department, serving as a Bike Patrol Officer and the Borough Business Contact for maintaining emergency notification information. Throughout his many years with the Department, he received a litany of awards for his service, to include: Medal of Valor; Certificate of Merit; and multiple Lifesaving Awards.

In the Fall of 2003, Officer Bloss received the Medal of Valor when he and Officer Swank saved an infant's life during a violent domestic dispute on Boas Street. His Certificate of Merit was earned as he was on duty when shots were fired at Capitol Police. He earned his three Lifesaving Awards for CPR performed throughout his decades of service.

Officer Bloss loved serving the community and was proud to wear the uniform, which he did with dignity and integrity. As proud as he was of his work in law enforcement, his three sons were his priority and focus of his greatest pride. He was blessed to serve simultaneously with two of his sons—one as Swatara Township K9 Police Officer, and one as a Dauphin County Dispatcher.

Throughout his work as a patrol and bike patrol officer, he served with distinction, working the job and community events that frequently took him away from his family and myriad holidays and special events. Despite his retirement, however, Officer Bloss will remain in service to citizens of the Borough of Paxtang as its EMA Coordinator.

I commend Officer Robin Bloss upon the auspicious occasion of his hard-earned retire-

ment and lifelong commitment. For his tireless, selfless, and loyal service to our community, Commonwealth, and Nation, I wish him God-speed on his next adventures.

RECOGNIZING PATRICK LAVIN ON  
HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE  
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD  
OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS  
(IBEW) LOCAL NO. 47

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 2021*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, today I want to recognize Mr. Patrick Lavin, who has retired after serving seven terms as Business Manager and Financial Secretary of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local No. 47 in Diamond Bar, California. I thank Pat for his years of friendship and counsel and congratulate him on his retirement following his 55-year career at IBEW, during which he was one of the most effective and longest-serving members of the IBEW International Executive Council (IEC), among many other roles.

A journeyman lineman by trade, Pat joined IBEW Local 9 outside Chicago as a summer helper before his sophomore year in high school and came on the job full time in 1968. In 1969, Pat interrupted his IBEW career and volunteered to serve his country in the U.S. Marine Corps during the height of the Vietnam War.

Over his lengthy career, Pat was a lineman for four different utilities. He worked for Southern California Edison (SCE) as a lineman, service crew foreman, and heavy crew foreman in Redondo Beach, Huntington Beach, and Santa Ana.

Pat has said that he saw many different changes in the electrical industry over the course of his career, and that the need for the services of electrical workers has grown immensely over the past twenty years. In his decades on the job, Pat also weathered numerous challenges including recessions and periods of anti-union rhetoric. In his own words: "As a groundman, an apprentice and a lineman, I have helped keep the lights on since 1969."

In addition to seven terms as Business Manager and Financial Secretary of IBEW Local No. 47, Pat served five terms as the IBEW 7th District International Executive Council member. He was chosen as Secretary of the Council by the IEC in June 2003. During his many years in the field, Pat has worked for numerous IBEW signatory contractors and four utilities out of various local unions around the United States. When Pat took over Local 47 in 1999 it was a 4,500-member utility. Today, it serves 14,000 members in nearly 200 classifications over a nearly 80,000 square mile jurisdiction from the Pacific to Arizona and from Mexico to just south of Lake Tahoe.

Pat was also chairman & treasurer of the Coalition of California Utility Employees (CCUE), a board member of California Unions for Reliable Energy (CURE), an executive board member of the California State Association of Electrical Workers (CSAEW), and a member of the board of directors of California