

his advocacy and hard work, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, the District of Columbia, the EPA, and the Chesapeake Bay Commission together signed the Chesapeake Bay Agreement and committed jointly to clean up the Bay.

During Will's tenure as president, the CBF reached new heights of success. His work helped expand the CBF's membership to over 300,000 and inspired so many Marylanders to share his passion for preserving one of our nation's greatest natural treasures. He raised the CBF's national profile, and the Save the Bay movement received international attention. Under Will's leadership, the CBF received the 1992 Presidential Medal for Environmental Excellence—our nation's highest environmental honor—for its environmental education program. He was instrumental in the CBF's efforts to help restore the Bay's oyster population, which is critical not only to preserving a fragile ecosystem but also to sustaining and supporting one of the key aquaculture industries in our state. Although challenges remain, the CBF's efforts have greatly improved the Bay's health and continue to drive efforts forward today to ensure that generations of Marylanders and Americans will be able to treasure the Chesapeake in the future.

Madam Speaker, I offer Will my congratulations on retiring from public service after a career of great contribution to the well-being of Maryland's beloved Chesapeake Bay. I hope all of my colleagues will join me in recognizing William C. Baker as he celebrates this milestone and in wishing him all the best in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES A. CONAHAN, GREATER WILKES-BARRE FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK MAN OF THE YEAR

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, today I honor James A. Conahan who will be named the 2022 Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Man of the Year at the organization's annual gathering on Friday, March 11, 2022. James joins an impressive cohort of men recognized by the Friendly Sons as Man of the Year, including his father who was honored in 2002.

James, born and raised in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, is the son of James Francis and Clare Conahan. He graduated from E.L. Meyers High School with the Class of 1981 and went on to attend King's College, earning a degree in health care management and playing baseball for the Monarchs.

James began his career in the health care field at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital in Kingston, Pennsylvania, where he worked as the manager of the sterile processing and distribution department. Following his work at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, he joined the staff at Scranton Community Medical Center, now Geisinger CMC, as the operating room materials manager. For the past 24 years, James has worked as an executive sales account manager for 3M Medical Solutions Division where he serves the acute hospital market.

James has been a longtime supporter and member of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly

Sons of St. Patrick, promoting and preserving Irish heritage in our region. He has served as president and president advisor, and he is the current chair of the Annual Golf Committee and Scholarship Committee, which supports a scholarship for local college students of Irish descent. He has been, and continues to be, involved in many of the Friendly Sons' endeavors, including the guest bartender program, the annual Wilkes-Barre St. Patrick's Day celebration, and the Irish teacher's program. In 2014, he was awarded the prestigious Michael "Mickey" Hayden Memorial Award by past president and Hayden's grandson, Patrick Peters, for his commitment preserving the region's Irish heritage.

In addition to his service to the Friendly Sons, James has been a familiar face throughout the community, lending his time and expertise to organizations in the area. As a former collegiate baseball player, he shared his love and knowledge of the game as an official for the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) and as president of the Wyoming Valley Chapter of the PIAA Baseball Umpires. He spent ten years on the board of the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority as chair of the Personnel Committee and assistant treasurer. As a lifelong resident of Wilkes-Barre, James has been actively involved in promoting the growth and development of the city. He currently sits on the boards of the Wilkes-Barre Parking Authority and Wilkes-Barre Municipal Authority. He also serves as ad hoc chair of the Wilkes-Barre Redevelopment Authority.

It is an honor to join with the Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in recognizing James as the Man of the Year. He has been a great champion of the City of Wilkes-Barre and the preservation of Irish American heritage in the region. I wish him all the best on St. Patrick's Day.

RECOGNIZING BEN MEYERS OF DELANO, MINNESOTA

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ben Meyers, from my hometown of Delano, Minnesota. During the 2022 Winter Olympics, Ben played on the United States men's ice hockey team as a forward.

Ben comes to Team USA from the University of Minnesota, where he is a junior. He serves as the team captain for the Gophers.

I congratulate Ben on making it to the Olympics. We're lucky to have such a talented young athlete in our backyard.

EVAN YELLOWFOX

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Evan Yellowfox for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Evan Yellowfox is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because his

determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Evan Yellowfox is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Evan Yellowfox for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

CONGRATULATING CONNIE MILLER ON 45 YEARS AT THE BROWN HOUSE

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Connie Miller of Auburn, who just celebrated her 45th year working at The Brown House restaurant.

Known for delicious ice cream and savory coney hot dogs, The Brown House has served the community of Auburn since 1949 when it first opened as a concession stand at the DeKalb County Free Fall Fair. Few things have changed about it since.

Two weeks before her 16th birthday in 1977, Connie started working at The Brown House. At the time, she was a sophomore working part time and did not intend to be there long. She was hired by owners Tom and Marcia Armstrong, who would operate the business for a total of 43 years until their respective retirement in 2019—yet further proof of the restaurant's continuity.

Connie is definitive when asked what she enjoys most about her job. "People," she says. When regulars patron the restaurant, they talk with her and ask about her on the occasion she is not there. She provides more than just a well-prepared meal, but a smile and fellowship to friends and patrons—in her eyes, one in the same.

People like Connie make our community and country great. As American hero Agnes Meyer Driscoll once said, "Fortunate are the people whose roots are deep." Few people's roots run deeper in Auburn than Connie, and our community is eternally grateful for it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, due to an emergency landing and the necessary cleanup at the airport, my flight to D.C. was significantly delayed.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 58 and YEA on Roll Call No. 59.

ILIA ORTIZ BAEZA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ilia Ortiz Baeza for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Ilia Ortiz Baeza is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ilia Ortiz Baeza is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ilia Ortiz Baeza for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING REAR ADMIRAL
RAYMOND CHARLES SMITH, JR.

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rear Admiral Raymond Charles Smith, Jr. in celebration of his outstanding career in the U.S. Navy.

Rear Admiral Raymond Charles Smith, Jr. was born and raised in Vallejo, California, graduating from St. Vincent's High School in 1961. Admiral Smith began his career in the Navy in 1962. Shortly after enlisting, he attended the U.S. Naval Academy, which he graduated from in 1967. Later, in 1974, he earned a master's degree in Physical Oceanography from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.

Admiral Smith served as First Lieutenant on USS *Floyd B. Parks* for two years before participating in Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL Training. After graduating from his SEAL Training in 1970, Admiral Smith served in a variety of positions on Underwater Demolition Team Thirteen, including as Ordinance Officer, Operations Officer, and Platoon Commander.

In August 1990, he deployed to the Arabian Gulf in response to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, where he led Naval Special Warfare Task Group Central during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Then in June 1992, he assumed command of Naval Special Warfare Command at Coronado, California, where he was responsible for over 2,300 SEALs and support personnel. From 1996 to 1998, Admiral Smith moved to Tampa, Florida, and served as both Director of Resources and the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Special Operations Command. He retired from active duty in 2001 after 34 years of service.

During his retirement, Admiral Smith devoted himself to his three passions: family, fitness, and community service. Admiral Smith

was described as a great husband, father, and friend. He was married to his wife, Kathleen, for 54 years, with whom he had three sons: Raymond III, Nate, and Adam. Admiral Smith passed away peacefully at his home in Coronado, California, on February 6, 2022.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Rear Admiral Raymond Charles Smith, Jr. dedicated his life to military service and our country. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

WYATT WILSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Wyatt Wilson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Wyatt Wilson is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Wyatt Wilson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Wyatt Wilson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHEN YUN

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Shen Yun, and welcome it back to Lincoln Center for its 17th anniversary. Shen Yun is a classical Chinese dance and music company with the mission of preserving traditional Chinese culture. The name Shen Yun means "the beauty of divine beings dancing." Shen Yun preserves, memorializes, and revitalizes ancient Chinese stories and traditions, introducing this rich culture and art form to New Yorkers and many other people around the world.

In 2006, a group of Chinese artists, persecuted by the Chinese Communist Party for practicing Falun Dafa, founded Shen Yun to preserve their traditions and ancient history, which has been under threat since the Cultural Revolution. These artists chose to gather in New York, a testament to this city's status as a haven for the arts, culture, and freedom. Shen Yun creates a new performance each year dedicated to these principles.

Shen Yun's performances draw from historical Chinese stories and legends such as Mulan and Journey to the West. Its dances are accompanied by traditional Chinese instruments such as the pipa, suona, and dizi.

Three of Shen Yun's performers were recipients of the Chinese Ministry of Culture's "National First-Class Performer Awards".

Shen Yun currently has seven troupes that travel and perform all around the world. The troupes perform in over 130 cities in North America, Europe, Asia, Australia, and Latin America. In their first three years of touring, over 1 million people attended Shen Yun performances.

I congratulate them for their unwavering devotion not only to putting on a fantastic show, but to preserving cultural treasures for future generations.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Shen Yun for celebrating thousands of years of Chinese culture and history through traditional dance, orchestration, costumes, and more.

RECOGNIZING MADDIE ROONEY OF
ANDOVER, MINNESOTA

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maddie Rooney of Andover, Minnesota, for her participation in the 2022 Winter Olympics. Maddie joined Team USA and played as goalkeeper on the women's ice hockey team.

Maddie comes to the Olympic team from the University of Minnesota Duluth Bulldogs women's ice hockey program. In 2018, she was awarded the Bob Allen Women's Player of the Year Award from USA Hockey.

Her training and hard work paid off: She helped bring home a silver medal for the United States. I congratulate Maddie on this great result at the 2022 Winter Games.

JANCY MENDOZA MANCIA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jancy Mendoza Mancia for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Jancy Mendoza Mancia is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jancy Mendoza Mancia is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jancy Mendoza Mancia for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.