

American Village, an 188-acre campus in Montevallo, Alabama, became chartered in 1995 and has since educated and inspired over 750,000 children as well as adults across the southeastern United States. American Village has welcomed thousands of public visitors each year for a true American Experience.

Before founding American Village, Tom earned his bachelor's degree, with honors, in history and political science from the University of Montevallo and his master's degree in political science from Mississippi State University.

Tom Walker is the former City Manager of Northport, Alabama, and served as the Special Assistant to the President of the University of Montevallo. He is also the former Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees at the University of Montevallo and was the founding chair of the AL Higher Education Partnership.

Since founding the American Village, Tom has received numerous awards and honors. In 2017, he was one of only sixteen private citizens appointed to the Semiquincentennial Commission to organize the 250th birthday celebration of the United States of America. In December of 2020, Tom was conferred the Honorary Doctor of Laws by Troy University. He is a past recipient of the American Bar Association's highest national award for excellence in K-12 law-related education. He is the recipient of the DAR Medal of Honor and the SAR Gold Citizenship Medal, the highest national honors awarded by the National Societies of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and of the Sons of the American Revolution, respectively. He has received numerous other state, regional and national awards and was named as Birmingham Citizen of the Year by The Women's Committee of Birmingham in 2014.

Tom once said, We must build good citizens and leaders who will cherish these ideals, and thereby learn to love our country, and what an incredible job of that he has done these past 35 years working with the students of the southeast.

Upon his retirement, Tom looks forward to spending more time with his wife, Betty, three children: his son, Matt and wife Candace; his daughter, Jane Herndon and her husband Josh; and his son Jefferson, along with his grandson, Wells Thomas Herndon. He will continue to maintain an office and an active part-time Founder and Director-Emeritus position at the American Village, as he continues to prepare the nation's youth to become leaders.

Since my own appointment to the United States Semiquincentennial Commission, I have had the honor to serve alongside Tom. I have grown to admire and respect his great love for American history, his solid values and his strong faith in God, which are the foundations that have made this nation great. It has been a privilege to work with him on this commission, but more importantly to call him my friend. I look forward to his continued service in that role.

As a community leader, educator, and friend, Tom Walker has touched the lives of countless Americans, including myself. Therefore, I ask you to join with me in congratulating Tom Walker on an inspirational 35 years of work and service to Montevallo, the State of Alabama, and the United States of America.

ZARIA TELL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 11, 2022

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

Zaria Tell is a student at Oberon Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Zaria Tell 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 Zaria Tell for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 11, 2022

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, March 3, 2022, this body considered amendments and final passage of H.R. 3967, the Honoring our PACT Act. One amendment voted on before this chamber was Mr. Ryan of Ohio's amendment number 23 which added the text of the SFC Heath Robinson Burn Pit Transparency Act to the bill.

While I did not support final passage of this bill, I did support several of amendments offered to it. Amendment 23 was one such amendment. Due to error on the House floor, my amendment was incorrectly cast as no.

This was an error and I rise today to correct my vote and indicate that I intended to vote yes, in favor of amendment 23. While I have issues with the underlying bill, this amendment was a strong addition to ensure we provide an adequate level of care to our nation's veterans who are suffering from toxic exposure during their service to this country.

Madam Speaker, I reiterate that I intended to vote in favor of amendment 23.

MATTHEW ZULLO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 11, 2022

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

Matthew Zullo is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Matthew Zullo 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 Matthew Zullo 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 HONOR OF MICHAEL J.
BRADLEY JR.

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 11, 2022

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I recognize and celebrate Michael J. Bradley Jr., on the occasion of his service as Grand Marshal of the Philadelphia St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The United States Congress is privileged to honor individuals who work to enrich Philadelphia's communities, and is proud to honor our Irish and Irish-American communities as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day at one of the oldest and largest St. Patrick's Day parades in our country.

Now, therefore, Congressman BRENDAN F. BOYLE, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, offers his best wishes and appreciation to Michael J. Bradley, Jr., as he leads the Philadelphia St. Patrick's Day Parade as Grand Marshal, and issues this proclamation on Sunday, March 13, 2022.

RYLEY SUNDBYE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 11, 2022

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

Ryley Sundbye is a student at Oberon Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ryley Sundbye 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 Ryley Sundbye 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 FEDERAL HEALTH
WORKERS DEPLOYED TO SPAR-
ROW HOSPITAL IN LANSING

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 11, 2022

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the heroic caregivers at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing, Michigan, including the Department of Defense medical team which has been providing critical assistance as the hospital has grappled with a surge in COVID patients over the last few months.

In early February 2022, as the omicron variant drove case levels to new heights, a team of 23 federal medical personnel, including physicians, registered nurses, and respiratory therapists, arrived in Lansing to provide much-needed help to Sparrow's staff. The team has spent the past month providing invaluable aid to the hospital's overtaxed Emergency Department, and in other areas of the hospital overwhelmed by extraordinarily high patient volumes. This team has worked alongside Sparrow's staff with grace, grit, and professionalism, and they have been invaluable to the hospital's service to the Greater Lansing area. Michigan's healthcare heroes, including the staff at Sparrow Hospital, have been on the frontlines of this battle for the past two years under the most intense and stressful conditions. But their commitment to the safety and health of our community never wavered. I've heard stories of caregivers who have held the phone to the ear of a dying patient so a family could say goodbye; others who have developed special relationships with patient's loved ones; and some who have worked with tireless dedication only to break down in their cars at the end of the day from what they're living through.

Sparrow Specialty Hospital leaders even organized a wedding ceremony—bringing decorations from home and filling in the wedding party—for a COVID patient who realized the shortness of life and decided to marry his longtime love as soon as possible. While the dedication shown by our health workers is remarkable, so too is the emotional and physical strain they've been put under.

The brave men and women of the military are called to serve their country, and we are so grateful to this team for the immense relief they have provided in the battle against this invisible enemy. I will never forget the cheers and tears I saw firsthand as the team arrived, in uniform, marching down Sparrow's hallway. I knew immediately they would feel right at home alongside the mission-driven team at Sparrow, and that this partnership would yield much-needed hope and relief.

We are so grateful to all who have cared for and comforted COVID patients and their families through two years of unrelenting demands, and to this remarkable partnership between the Department of Defense medical team and Sparrow Hospital. On behalf of a grateful community and nation, it is my great honor to record their remarkable service to Mid-Michigan so that their actions may be known to all.

ABEL UBALLE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 11, 2022

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

Abel Uballe is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Abel Uballe 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 Abel Uballe 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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 11, 2022

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I was regrettably unable to vote on March 8, 2022. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on H.R. 5681 and "yes" on H. Con. Res. 70.

NA'JAILAH SILLEMON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 11, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Na'jailah Sillemmon for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Na'jailah Sillemmon is a student at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Na'jailah Sillemmon 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 Na'jailah Sillemmon 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.

BIANCEN ESTRASDA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 11, 2022

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

Biancen Estrasda is a student at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Biancen Estrasda 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 Biancen Estrasda 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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BYRON DONALDS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 11, 2022

Mr. DONALDS. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed two of yesterday's votes. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on roll-call No. 65.

OBETH PEREZ LUNA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 11, 2022

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

Obeth Perez Luna is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Obeth Perez Luna 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 Obeth Perez Luna 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.