

Moreover, the Stargazers Dance Troupe has successfully collaborated with other organizations. This notably includes work with the Guam Allied Dance Force in producing a 2020 virtual Christmas dance festival to celebrate the season of giving, benefit the Salvation Army Guam, and uplift the spirits of the People of Guam amid the challenges and uncertainties imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Over the years, Stargazers have used their gifts and talents to elevate our island's presence abroad. From performing on national television in the Philippines, to earning numerous national championships in the U.S. and Canada, and taking the stage at California Disneyland and Disney World, Florida, they have proudly represented Guam, garnered many national and international awards, and showcased to the rest of the world the greatness to be discovered in our small region of the Pacific. Their recent accomplishments in the 2019 Luv 2 Dance Competition have distinctly lengthened an already extensive list of accolades. After facing off against a wealth of other experienced competitors, Guam's Stargazers rose to the top as Large Group National Champions while simultaneously obtaining the Top National Sapphire Studio Award, Best Choreography Award, and the first-ever Legacy Award—an award created to recognize an outstanding dance group that made an impact, demonstrated showmanship and studio spirit, and developed meaningful connections with other dancers throughout the week of competition.

On behalf of the People of Guam, I would like to extend a proud congratulations to our Stargazers for their success in earning national and international recognition across competition and entertainment platforms. Dancing is a form of art and expression that truly provides the opportunity to connect with, empower, and inspire others, and I applaud the Stargazers Dance Troupe for continuously accomplishing these objectives. I further commend Mr. Mark Gonzales for his dedication to encouraging generations of Guam's youth with the space to learn the value of hard work, cultivate their passions, and pursue their dreams. It is truly an honor to watch the Stargazers Dance Troupe story unfold, and I look forward to seeing the next chapter of their journey as they set out to represent our island once again in Atlantic City's That's Entertainment Performing Arts Competition in July.

BROOKLYN HECTOR

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brooklyn Hector for her creative and unique drawing, earning her the top drawing award in the 2022 Congressional Art Competition.

As a participant in the art show and student at Ralston Valley High School, Brooklyn created a work of art entitled, "Twilight in Golden Canyon". It was created using watercolors and depicts the sunset reflected on a pond with glass in the foreground.

Brooklyn spent countless hours and used numerous tools to learn new techniques and refine her painting skills and education in the

arts. I appreciate her participation in the competition and the support provided by her teachers at Ralston Valley High School.

Congratulations to Brooklyn Hector for her hard work and participation in the 2022 Congressional Art Competition. I am certain she will exhibit the same dedication and character in her future accomplishments, and I wish her the best of luck going forward.

COLONEL JEFFERY B. EDWARDS

HON. CLIFF BENTZ

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. BENTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Colonel Jeffrey B. Edwards, United States Air Force, for his exceptional dedication and distinguished service to the United States of America. Colonel Edwards will retire on May 15, 2022, from his current assignment as the Commander of the 173rd Fighter Wing at Kingsley Field in Klamath Falls, Oregon. We thank him for his commitment to our country over the past 27 years.

Colonel Edwards graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in 1995. His first mission took him to Elmendorf Air Force Base in Alaska, then to Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida, and then Osan Air Base in the Republic of Korea. During his time in Alaska, he was deployed twice to defend our nation, which included 52 combat sorties in Operation SOUTHERN WATCH in Iraq and Operation ALLIED FORCE, over eastern Europe. In 2000, he was assigned to Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida, where he served as an F-15C fighter pilot instructor, training the next generation of fighter pilots. In 2003, Colonel Edwards was stationed in Osan Air Base in the Republic of Korea as the Chief of Air Defense Plans for the 7th Air Force. After his service in Korea, in 2004, he joined the Oregon National Guard at Kingsley Field. In 2006, Colonel Edwards attended United States Air Force Weapons School. In 2019, after serving in several positions at Kingsley Field, he earned the Command of the 173rd Fighter Wing. Colonel Edwards has been awarded the 173rd Fighter Wing Instructor Pilot of the Year award, the USAF Weapons School F-15 Academic Award, the 19th Air Force Air-to-Air Fighter Pilot Instructor of the Year, the Meritorious Service Medal, Aerial Achievement Medal, and the Air Force Commendation Medal. His service has included over 3,200 flight hours. Colonel Edwards embodies the Air Force Core Values of Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence In All We Do as a Commander, leader, and Airman.

Kingsley Field is a critical asset for American national security. It serves as an outstanding training center for the Air National Guard and active-duty pilots. In Colonel Edwards' time as Commander, Kingsley Field was designated as first in line to function as a formal training unit for the Boeing F-15EX fighter jet. A critical part of domestic defense missions, the first operational F-15EX squadron was designated to operate in the Oregon Air National Guard. Additionally, Colonel Edwards led Kingsley Field effectively through the COVID-19 pandemic. Plans were formalized for Kingsley Field's dedicated men and

women to support their families while carefully maintaining the overall mission. In 2021, he seamlessly balanced the activation of over 250 Airmen for COVID-19 and hospital support. In 2022, over 145 members were activated to help the State of Oregon's deal with the Omicron variant. During this time, never once did Colonel Edwards' leadership waver. He stands on the front line, supporting innovation in aircraft, managing issues as they arise, and holding fast to a vision of a better future.

Furthermore, Colonel Edwards extends his focus on the future beyond his service to the men and women of Kingsley Field as a member of my Military Service Academy Nomination Board, which includes other exceptional active and retired officers. His experience as an Air Force Academy graduate, a pilot and a leader provides invaluable help as he, and the other military officers of my annual nomination board, interview students to assess their character, leadership, physical aptitude, motivation, academic preparation, extracurricular, and community service activities.

For a man who has demonstrated such strong leadership, allegiance, and sacrifice during his service to our Nation, recognition is a very modest attempt to thank him.

We indeed owe a serious debt of gratitude to Colonel Edwards, because, though technology, time, and power may change, the attributes of a good leader remain unchanged. Colonel Edwards has dedicated his life to this nation, and we thank him for the service, vision, and leadership he has demonstrated both at home and abroad.

Madam Speaker, as we reach the culmination of his distinguished career, I join my colleagues today in congratulating Colonel Edwards for his lifetime of service to our country. We wish him, his wife, Teresa, and their six children: Matthew 22, Anna 20, Andrew 17, Rachel 14, Sarah 12, and James 10 best wishes as he retires from the United States Air Force.

CONGRATULATING ROCK ISLAND
HIGH SCHOOL COACH MARC POLITE
FOR BEING NAMED "COACH
OF THE YEAR"

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rock Island High School boys' head basketball coach Marc Polite for being named "Coach of the Year" for 2022 by the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association.

When Marc began coaching at Rock Island High School, he decided he wanted to build a strong and solid team both on and off the court. The student-athletes that he coaches are able to set academic, athletic, personal, and professional goals, and play basketball while having fun. And just one year into his coaching career at Rock Island High School, coaches from across the State of Illinois voted Marc "Coach of the Year." As a former athlete, I appreciate Marc's dedication to his team, and I commend him for receiving this honor from the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association.

It is because of community leaders like Marc Polite that I am especially proud to serve

Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Marc Polite for being named "Coach of the Year" by the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association.

**RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE AND
RETIREMENT OF MARCIA GAR-
RETT OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON**

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. KILMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Marcia Garrett of Tacoma, Washington for her decades of service and to celebrate her upcoming retirement.

Marcia is a lifelong Washingtonian with a dedication to public service. She began her career serving as a staff member in the Washington State legislature and served our country as a White House aide during President Carter's Administration. After returning to the Pacific Northwest, Marcia joined the team at Washington State University, where she has worked for the past 26 years.

As the Director of Regional Relations in the Office of External Affairs and Governmental Relations for Washington State University, Marcia has been a pillar in our community, tirelessly working to build bridges between higher education, the community, and local government. In addition to her work at the University, Marcia is involved in several boards, organizations, and working groups within the Puget Sound region. She is a vocal and tenacious advocate for higher education in the state of Washington and we are all better off thanks to her work advancing the research and work of public universities.

Madam Speaker, beyond her many accomplishments, I would also like to express gratitude for the friend that Marcia has been to me. Not only do I appreciate the work she has done; I appreciate the person that she is. Please join me in congratulating Marcia Garrett on her service to Washington State University and the state of Washington. I wish her all the best in her retirement.

**RECOGNIZING THE FORT WALTON
BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
FOR THEIR INVALUABLE CON-
TRIBUTION TO COMMEMORATING
THE DOOLITTLE RAIDERS**

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce for the historical contribution they have made in commemorating the Doolittle Raiders.

The mission of the Doolittle Raiders was to strike back at the Japanese military after their attack on Pearl Harbor. Lt. Colonel James Doolittle began training the Doolittle Raiders at Eglin Air Force Base just weeks before their historic raid. Before leaving Eglin, the Doolittle Raiders would become some of the greatest and most capable fighting pilots of all time.

In April of 1942, the Doolittle Raiders began their historic flight. However, they were reported by a Japanese vessel off the coast of California. They decided to launch their mission early in order to surprise the Japanese fleet that had been notified of their attack. Unfortunately, this early launch meant they would not have enough gas to make it to their designated landing place. As a result, many would have to either bail or perform a crash landing.

Despite this, the historic Doolittle Raid was invaluable to American morale in the early stages of WWII, which inevitably changed its course.

In the years following WWII, the Raiders held reunions commemorating the Doolittle Raid and all it stood for. Each reunion they would toast the Raiders who had passed since their last meeting. In 2013, the last reunion took place in Fort Walton Beach, and in 2019, the last Doolittle Raider, Bud Cole, passed away.

This year, the Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce sponsored a final commemorative toast to Bud Cole and the Doolittle Raiders at Northwest Florida State College. The distinguished honor bestowed upon these great servicemen by the Fort Walton Beach Chamber will never be forgotten.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce and their commitment to preserving the memory of these national heroes. I thank them for their service and dedication to the legacies of these historic U.S. Servicemembers.

RACHEL SANCHEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Rachel Sanchez for her creative and unique drawing, earning her third place in the 2022 Congressional Art Competition.

As a participant in the art show and student at Golden High School, Rachel created a work of art entitled, "Father Figure". The artwork is a charcoal portrait of her father.

Rachel spent countless hours and used numerous tools to learn new techniques and refine her painting skills and education in the arts. I appreciate her participation in the competition and the support provided by her teachers at Golden High School.

Congratulations to Rachel Sanchez for her hard work and participation in the 2022 Congressional Art Competition. I am certain she will exhibit the same dedication and character in her future accomplishments, and I wish her the best of luck going forward.

ASHEBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exceptional public service provided by Officers of the Asheboro, North Carolina Police Department.

On March 2, 2022, one of my constituents was scheduled for an important medical procedure. As his wife was driving him to his appointment, she suddenly began experiencing serious medical symptoms. This forced the couple to make an emergency stop at a local convenience store. Dismayed, my constituent believed he would miss the appointment for his critical operation.

Upon observing the distress of a total stranger, a good Samaritan called 9-1-1. Officers Olivia Hicks and Courtney Crisco were nearby, and they were quickly dispatched to the convenience store. Although Officer Crisco was in training that day, both she and Officer Hicks sprang into action. As the EMTs cared for the gentleman's wife, the officers personally drove my constituent to his appointment. Not content to merely ensure he had transportation for his trip home, the officers also arranged for the man to have a caretaker until the effects of the anesthesia had subsided.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking Officers Olivia Hicks and Courtney Crisco, along with the entire Asheboro Police Department, for admirably responding to the call to protect and serve their community. Through their actions, these officers demonstrated their genuine concern for those they serve. At a time when some have called for the defunding of police departments, residents across Asheboro should be proud of such exemplars of policing and public service.

**HONORING DR. MARK JUSTIN
APFEL**

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Mark Justin Apfel as he retires from Anderson Valley Health Center and an extraordinary 45-year career in health care in rural Mendocino County.

Born in New York in April 1949, Dr. Apfel earned an undergraduate degree at Syracuse University and graduated from medical school at SUNY Upstate Medical University Norton College of Medicine. He went on to become an emergency room physician with Kaiser, serving Oakland, Vallejo, and Redwood City, California, and then a physician for East Oakland Family Health Center. In 1976, he was selected to be an emergency room physician for Hillside Hospital in Ukiah, California. That same year, Dr. Apfel began serving as a volunteer physician with a newly formed health clinic in Boonville, California, soon to become the Anderson Valley Health Center. Dr. Apfel stepped into the role of the first full time doctor at Anderson Valley Health Center (AVHC) in rural Mendocino County, where he worked for the next 45 years.

While working at AVHC, Dr. Apfel took on additional roles as an emergency room physician and medical director of palliative care for Ukiah Valley Medical Center in Ukiah, California; and he served as a staff physician at the Mendocino Community Hospital in Fort Bragg, California. This work required Dr. Apfel to commute frequently throughout Mendocino County, travelling year-round over the windy country roads that connect these communities.

In addition to Dr. Apfel's professional service to Mendocino County, he was an active