

while serving as a medic. When his unit was hit by intense hostile fire and sustained several casualties, Mr. Thornton was called forward to administer first aid to two seriously wounded soldiers. He crawled forward while exposed to oppressive enemy fire and successfully administered medical treatment to his comrades.

Throughout his career, Mr. Thornton's courage saved the lives of countless soldiers and inspired his comrades.

In 1967, he was discharged and returned to live in Apalachicola, Florida where he worked as a seafood broker.

In 1988, he met his wife, Giannina Redaelli Thornton and married a year later. Together, they raised 3 children and relocated to Rock Hill, South Carolina in 2004. I congratulate Mr. William F. Thornton and his entire family on his 80th birthday celebration and I thank him for his years of dedicated service to this country and his community.

HONORING 82ND AIRBORNE HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR WOLF AMACKER FOR HIS VALOROUS SERVICE AND SACRIFICE

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Command Sergeant Major Wolf Amacker for his induction into the 82nd Airborne Division's Hall of Fame on September 28, 2022.

The 82nd Airborne Division's Hall of Fame began in 2018 to honor the division's 101 years of legendary service and its members. It honors veteran paratroopers who are nominated for their service within the division, their commitment to the division's values, their contributions to their chosen field outside of their division, or any other valorous combat actions.

A brief look at Command Sgt. Maj. Amacker's career accomplishments only begins to adequately describe the importance of his military service. Having served in the 82nd Airborne Division from 1996 to 2006, Command Sgt. Maj. Amacker has held every leadership position in the airborne field artillery. In 2001, he rose from his role as commandant for the 18th Airborne Corps Noncommissioned Officer Academy to become the 21st command sergeant major for the 82nd Airborne Division. To assist with Operation Iraqi Freedom, he then deployed to Iraq and established the first Iraqi Training Center for the purpose of training Iraqi nationals. This successful initiative brought greater security to the conflict in the "Sunni Triangle." In total, Command Sgt. Maj. Amacker conducted 319 missions while he was a member of the 82nd Airborne. When retired from his position as command sergeant major in 2006, he continued to serve the division as the inspector general, chief of investigations prior to becoming the chief of operations for range control at the Fort Bragg Garrison in 2009. He has served as the installation range officer since 2015 where he upholds the important duty of training the division's paratroopers for any global conflicts they may be called to address.

In the words of the former commander of the 82nd Airborne Division, Gen. Erik Kurilla,

"the All American Hall of Fame is about preserving our legacy and paying homage to our All American Legends." Command Sgt. Maj. Amacker's selfless service could not be more deserving of such recognition. I know I speak for all in our community and Nation in thanking Command Sgt. Maj. Amacker for his committed service and leadership in the 82nd Airborne Division.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring and congratulating Command Sergeant Major Wolf Amacker for his induction to the 82nd Airborne Division's Hall of Fame.

JEREMY LAUFER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jeremy Laufer for receiving the Wheat Ridge Business Association's 2022 Rising Star Award.

The Rising Star Award is given to an individual who exemplifies exceptional leadership and who shows great promise in their continued commitment to our community. Jeremy has been an outstanding member of the Wheat Ridge Business Association, bringing his expertise and leadership to all that he does. While he is new to the Association, Mr. Laufer has jumped into his new role feet first. Starting out as a member of the Community Outreach Committee, he now chairs the Committee since joining the Board of Directors. His focus is on bridging the connections between the non-profit organization member, community partners, and the WRBA.

I thank Jeremy Laufer for his continued service to the great City of Wheat Ridge.

COMMENDING THE GARY FRONTIERS SERVICE CLUB AND HONOREES AT THE 1ST ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. MEMORIAL BANQUET

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and reflect on his legacy, we are reminded of the challenges that democracy poses to us, and the delicate nature of our civil liberties and human rights. Dr. King's peaceful protests for change remind us that we must continually work to secure and protect our freedom. In his courage to act, his humble yet strong leadership, and his ability to achieve, Dr. King embodied all that is good and true in the battle for justice and liberty.

The spirit of Dr. King lives on in the citizens of communities throughout our nation. It lives on in the people whose actions reflect the spirit of determination and perseverance that will help move our country into the future. I am honored to rise today to commend the individuals who will be recognized during the 1st Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Banquet on Sunday, October 2, 2022, at Chateau Banquets in Merrillville, Indiana.

Attorney Clorius Lay is serving as Event Chair for this celebration, following a two-year hiatus from the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Memorial Breakfast, for which Attorney Lay had served as Chairman for fifteen years. The Gary Frontiers Service Club officers and members, as well as many other community members and leaders, assisted with this remarkable tribute to Dr. King each year at the Genesis Convention Center in Gary, Indiana, and I am truly grateful that the event will endure.

At this year's banquet, Pastor Reverend Charles L. Emery of Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church, located in Gary, Indiana, will be honored with the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drum Major Award for his lifetime of service to the people of his church and to the community. The Honorable Jerome Prince, Mayor of Gary, will present Pastor Emery with a "Key to the City" and will declare October 9, 2022, as Charles L. Emery Day in the city of Gary. President William Godwin and Vice President Tai Adkins of the Gary Common Council will also induct Pastor Emery into the Gary City Council as an honorary member. In addition, the guest speaker for the celebration is Reverend Dr. A.R. Boyd, Pastor of LeClaire Missionary Baptist Church of Chicago, Illinois.

Madam Speaker, I invite you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the honorees, as well as the Gary Frontiers Service Club officers: President Oliver Gilliam, Vice President Charles Jackson, Secretary Linnal Ford, Financial Secretary Melvin Ward, and Treasurer Floyd Donaldson, and all members of the service club for their initiative, determination, and dedication to serving the people of Northwest Indiana.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I was unable to attend roll call vote No. 454 and No. 453 on September 22nd.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 454, and NAY on Roll Call No. 453.

HONORING 82ND AIRBORNE HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE 1ST LIEUTENANT WAVERLY WRAY FOR HIS VALOROUS SERVICE AND SACRIFICE

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor 1st Lieutenant Waverly Wray for his induction into the 82nd Airborne Division's Hall of Fame on September 28, 2022.

The 82nd Airborne Division's Hall of Fame began in 2018 to honor the division's 101 years of legendary service and its members. It honors veteran paratroopers who are nominated for their service within the division, their commitment to the division's values, their contributions to their chosen field outside of their division, or any other valorous combat actions.

A brief look at 1st Lt. Wray's career accomplishments only begins to adequately describe the importance of his military service. 1st Lt. Wray was a member of the 505th Infantry Regiment, which was assigned to the 82nd Airborne in 1943, where he served as a platoon leader and executive officer for Company D, 2nd Battalion from 1940 through 1944. He demonstrated exceptional leadership and courage in World War II in both Operation Overlord in Normandy and Operation Market Garden in the Netherlands. Under siege from two reinforced Nazi battalions at Sainte-Mere-Eglise which greatly weakened his battalion, 1st Lt. Wray moved to the front of his lines and successfully eliminated the source of heavy machine gun fire as well as killed a total of 15 enemy soldiers. Furthermore, he later conducted a surveillance mission on which he discovered enemy headquarters, killed all eight Nazi officers there, and further secured the safety and position of his own unit. Sadly, 1st Lt. Wray was killed later in World War II during Operation Market Garden in the Netherlands in 1944. His heroic actions in service to our nation earned him numerous decorations, including a Distinguished Service Cross and a Silver Star among other awards.

In the words of the former commander of the 82nd Airborne Division, Gen. Erik Kurilla, "the All American Hall of Fame is about preserving our legacy and paying homage to our All American Legends." 1st Lt. Wray's selfless service could not be more deserving of such recognition. I know I speak for all in our community and Nation in thanking 1st Lt. Wray for his committed service and leadership in the 82nd Airborne Division and our nation's military more broadly.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring and congratulating 1st Lieutenant Waverly Wray for his induction to the 82nd Airborne Division's Hall of Fame.

HONORING NEZAHUALCOYOTL
XIUHTECUTLI FOR HISPANIC
HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Nezahualcoyotl Xiuhtecutli was born in Mexico City. He immigrated to the United States when he was 13 and lived in South Carolina during his early years in the states. He dropped out of school after two years of college to work for a living. He returned to school after four years of doing different kinds of jobs, including working as a stocker, a waiter, and working for a small bilingual newspaper in Columbia, South Carolina.

He moved to Charleston in 1997 and by working and studying at the same time, he was able to finish college in 2003. Part of that time was spent working with his parents who were then starting a small Mexican bakery in Charlotte. He decided to pursue graduate education in anthropology and moved to New Orleans to attend Tulane University in 2004. There, he earned a Ph.D. in 2022.

He then moved to Florida in 2011 and joined the staff of the Farmworker Association of Florida in 2016 as part of the research team. In that role, he has been advocating for

better working conditions for farmworkers in Central Florida and raising awareness about the short and long-term effects of heat-related illness.

In late 2020, he became the general coordinator of the association. In that role, he has worked to establish relationships with schools in Kissimmee to offer students the opportunity to participate in the organization's agroecology program.

Earlier this year, he met with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary for Health, Admiral Rachel Levine, and myself, to speak about the concerns of Central Florida farmworkers and other rural and low-income communities.

MARGIE SEYFER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Margie Seyfer for receiving the Wheat Ridge Business Association's 2022 Member of the Year Award.

The Member of the Year Award is given to an individual who exemplifies exceptional leadership and above all else, commitment to our community. Margie Seyfer has been an outstanding member of the Wheat Ridge Business Association, bringing her expertise and leadership to all that she does. In her tenure, she has worked in the capacity of membership, greeter's coordinator, speaker coordinator, and member welcome committee. Even after retirement, Ms. Seyfer has remained an active participant in our rich business community and has continued to remain an instrumental part of the Wheat Ridge Business Association.

I thank Margie Seyfer for her service to the great City of Wheat Ridge.

HONORING A CENTURY OF U.S.-
ISRAEL TIES

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, as the Ranking Member of the Foreign Affairs Middle East Subcommittee, it is a pleasure to recognize A Century of United States and Israel Ties.

One hundred years ago, Senator Henry Cabot Lodge (R-MA) and Representative Hamilton Fish (R-NY) pushed a joint resolution through Congress for the United States to officially acknowledge their support for a Jewish homeland. The House and Senate vote was unanimous, and in September 1922, President Warren G. Harding signed the Resolution.

Israel is a great friend, ally, and partner to the United States in our shared commitment to democracy, economic development, and regional security. The U.S.-Israel bond is unique, as it is the foundation of American leadership in the Middle East. In 1948, America was the first country to recognize Israel as a state and in 2018, America established an

embassy in Jerusalem. I was grateful to lead the House Delegation for the Embassy opening fulfilling the courageous promise of President Donald Trump.

A highlight of my service in Congress was when my wife Roxanne and I met with former Prime Minister Netanyahu in Jerusalem and Washington. Mr. Netanyahu significantly contributed to the strengthening of Israeli security, transitioning it into an economic force, respected internationally. I know firsthand of his extraordinary dedication to the people of Israel. The Israeli people have demonstrated resiliency, overcoming numerous challenges and enduring the threat of terrorism, while continuing to remain confident in the future of their country. They continue to lead the way in critical sectors of healthcare, information technology, and defense.

I grew up with an appreciation of the Jewish faith in Charleston, South Carolina, where at the time of the American Revolution was home of the largest Jewish population in the New World. The provincial constitution of South Carolina was the first constitution to recognize Judaism as a religion. The first Jewish elected official in America was to the South Carolina Provincial Assembly, and sadly it was home of the first Jewish American killed in the Revolution.

The people of Israel, and Prime Minister Yair Lapid, know they have a true ally in America. I continue to work toward the normalization of our Arab partners and Israel relations to achieve a more stable, peaceful, and prosperous Middle East in which all people and religions can coexist and prosper. I am grateful for the dedicated service of Ambassador to the U.S., Michael Herzog.

HONORING YESICA RAMIREZ FOR
HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Yesica Ramirez is the Apopka office area coordinator at the Farmworker Association of Florida. She and her family come from Michoacan, Mexico. Her first job in Apopka was as a plant nursery worker, where she worked for six years. Yesica also took several other jobs such as housekeeper and dishwasher.

During the years Yesica worked at the plant nursery, she had no clue about pesticides and wondered how she had gotten rashes on her arms and hands. She later became pregnant with her third child who was born with complications. Upon birth, the baby needed to get their skull cut to get the head molded. When community members were active, fed up, and had a hint of hope for immigration reform, Yesica joined one of FWA's marches in 2006. That was her introduction to FWA. As she became more involved with the organization, a lot of things became clearer, such as the rashes on her hands and arms, and her child's health complications. During her work at the plant nursery, Yesica made a mixture of Clorox and alcohol with no protective gear. She has been fighting for social justice as part of the FWA staff for 10 years.

Through her work with FWA, Yesica has been active in Florida's Ninth Congressional