

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 FWF's marches in 2006. That was her introduction to FWF. 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 FWF staff for 10 years.

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

District working on immigration and voting rights, including working with the Young American Dreamers and doing outreach in the district to make sure that farmworkers in the area know their rights and become members of the association. Recently, Yesica was part of a delegation that met with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary for Health, Admiral Rachel Levine, to voice the issues that concern and affect farmworkers in Central Florida.

REBEKAH RAUDABAUGH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rebekah Raudabaugh for receiving the Wheat Ridge Business Association's 2022 Council Partner Award.

The Council Partnership Award is given to a member of the community who the City Council believe exemplifies the best of Wheat Ridge. This year, the Wheat Ridge City Council chose Ms. Raudabaugh for her empathic service to our community. From the first time she met with City Council members, her commitment to bettering her community was clear and is seen through her earnest plight to earn the trust of the community.

I thank Rebekah Raudabaugh for her outstanding leadership, which helps make Wheat Ridge a wonderful place to live and work.

HONORING 82ND AIRBORNE HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE COLONEL BENJAMIN H. VANDERVOORT 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 Colonel Benjamin H. Vandervoort 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 Col. Vandervoort's career accomplishments only begins to adequately describe the importance of his military service. Col. Vandervoort was a member of the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, which was assigned to the 82nd Airborne in 1943, from 1940 to 1945 and held many important ranks over the course of World War II. Specifically, he served as the regiment's operations officer during the United States' invasion of Sicily and Salerno and as the commander of the regiment's 2nd Battalion during the invasion of Normandy in 1944 and the Battle of the Bulge later that year. In the latter, he led his battalion into the fray in the cities of Sainte-Mere-Eglise, Nijmegen, and Bastogne. Perhaps

most impressively, he also orchestrated and performed an assault on the Waal bridge in the Netherlands during this conflict. On account of his courage, bravery, and spectacular leadership in this episode, he received Oak Leaf Clusters for his Distinguished Service Cross and two Oak Leaf Clusters for his Purple Heart. Although injuries from his time in the 2nd Battalion forced him to medically retire from the Army in 1946, he continued to work to bolster our national security in his capacity as a civilian by working for the CIA and U.S. Army staff.

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." Col. Vandervoort's selfless service could not be more deserving of such recognition. I know I speak for all in our community and Nation in thanking Col. Vandervoort 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 Colonel Benjamin Vandervoort for his induction to the 82nd Airborne Division's Hall of Fame.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. ANATOLY DWIGUN

HON. CHRIS JACOBS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. JACOBS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of Anatoly Dwigun, who passed away on February 24, 2022, at the age of 76.

Mr. Dwigun was born in Germany on October 28, 1945. His two parents and three siblings immigrated to the United States in 1955 when he was ten years old. A true exemplar of American patriotism, Mr. Dwigun joined the U.S. Army in 1968, just shortly after earning his American citizenship. His remarkable service in Vietnam as a helicopter mechanic and door gunner led to him receiving several honors: including the Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and the New York State Conspicuous Services Cross Award. In a demonstration of humility, Mr. Dwigun declined to accept the Purple Heart; in his own words, stating he was not "as worthy of that honor, as those who lost their lives". Following Vietnam, Mr. Dwigun proudly worked as an engineer and spent considerable time enjoying the outdoors. He was precise and caring in all his actions, best exemplified by his superb vehicle-maintenance abilities and immaculate yard work.

Mr. Dwigun's humility was constantly reflected during his marriage to his loving wife, Janice. The two shared countless happy memories not only with each other, but also their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Many of his most cherished times were during family gatherings and shared meals. To summarize, Mr. Dwigun's memory lives on through his family and his country.

Madam Speaker, please join me celebrating Mr. Dwigun's life and in honoring his life's work and all his achievements.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 451.

CLANCY'S IRISH PUB

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Clancy's Irish Pub for receiving the Wheat Ridge Business Association's 2022 Cultural Commission Award.

Clancy's Irish Pub is being recognized by the Wheat Ridge Business Association's Cultural Commission as the longest running Irish Pub in the State of Colorado and as a vital cultural hub for members of our community. Clancy's hosts annual Celtic and Sonic Bluegrass Festivals, weekly Irish music performance, Celtic and bluegrass jam sessions, and karaoke. Clancy's also opens their doors to community events like Hops with a Cop, Pints and Policy, and Ridgefest Deconstructed. Their steadfastness toward engaging the community of Wheat Ridge in Irish culture and providing a space to celebrate and learn about it is why the Cultural Commission chose Clancy's.

I thank Clancy's Irish Pub for the rich culture they bring to our community.

HONORING JOHN JACKSON KENNEDY

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of John J. Kennedy, who passed away on July 21, 2022, at the age of 61. John was a respected leader and councilmember in the Pasadena community whose legacy will be felt indefinitely.

John J. Kennedy was born and raised in Pasadena, California to his parents Thomas and Leola Kennedy as the eighth of ten siblings. John was always a natural leader, drawn to serving and representing those around him from an early age. He was student body president at Pasadena's Blair High School and went on to serve as student senator at the University of Southern California, where he received a dual bachelor's degree in Economics and International Relations. After earning his juris doctor degree from Howard University School of Law, John became the youngest person to be elected president to the Pasadena National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1987. His decades-long work with the NAACP as both president and a member represented his powerful commitment to creating opportunities for everyone in Pasadena.

In 1987, John also founded John J. Kennedy & Associates, a management consulting