

embarked on a career in finance. He passed the CPA examination and eventually retired as a highly respected partner at Plante Moran, a national certified public accounting and business advisory firm.

David has long been a pillar of his community. He has served as the Mayor of Lancaster since 2017, a position he continues to hold with honor. His dedication has extended to various state and local boards and committees, including the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, Destination Downtown Lancaster, the Ohio Mayor's Alliance, the Mid-Ohio Planning Commission, the Ohio Small Business Council, and the Fairfield County Airport Authority.

As Mayor, David has steered Lancaster through challenging times, including economic uncertainty arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. His decisive leadership was instrumental as he navigated his city through financial crises and fostered economic development.

At the age of 75, David Scheffler's continued dedication and contributions to his community inspire us all. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to David Scheffler as one of the newest members of the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame, and I thank him for his service to this country.

HONORING YUBA WATER AGENCY UPON THE COMPLETION OF THE HALLWOOD SIDE CHANNEL AND FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION PROJECT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Yuba Water Agency upon its completion of the Hallwood Side Channel and Floodplain Restoration Project. This outstanding achievement will safeguard local habitats and provide critical support to Yuba County's infrastructure.

Due to decades of hydraulic gold mining, the Yuba River has faced ecological challenges that harm native fish species, including the chinook salmon and steelhead trout. The innovative Hallwood Side Channel and Floodplain Restoration project will restore fish habitats and reduce flood risk, reversing some of the most severe ecological challenges in the region.

This project has successfully enhanced and restored 157 acres of floodplain habitat, including 1.7 miles of new side channels and more than 6 miles of seasonally inundated side channels, alcoves, and swales. These investments in the Yuba River will benefit its wildlife species, preserving this local habitat for future generations and taking a critical step towards protecting our community's environment and natural resources.

On behalf of the constituents of California's Eighth Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Yuba Water Agency upon the completion of this essential project which will benefit Yuba River wildlife, the surrounding habitat, and the local community.

CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION FOR PETTY OFFICER DOUGLAS COMPTON

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Petty Officer Third Class Douglas Compton of Royse City, Texas, and award him a Congressional Veteran Commendation. PO3 Compton honorably served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War.

When the United States conducted a draft, PO3 Compton was not one of those selected. However, he chose to serve his country and joined the Navy. PO3 Compton served on the USS *Chase County* (LST-491) tank landing ship as an engineman. His responsibilities included maintaining the ship's engine room and repairing broken parts to ensure that it is ready to go on combat missions at a moment's notice. For his service and contributions to the war effort, PO3 Compton was awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal and several other awards.

After his military service, PO3 Compton worked for Texas Instruments as a numerical control machinist. In this role, he helped produce critical parts for the American defense industry, including components for night vision devices, missiles, and cameras. His important work at Texas Instruments helped the United States maintain a competitive advantage in advanced weaponry and technology. Later, PO3 Compton worked with Halliburton as a machinist and manufacturing production planner. He retired after 41 years with Halliburton, and now focuses on spending time with his children and grandchildren.

PO3 Compton is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and helps raise awareness for veterans' issues. When called upon, he plays taps during memorial services for veterans at the Rest Haven Funeral Home in Rockwall. He also plays in community bands around North Texas. I commend PO3 Compton for his continued efforts to ensure that the sacrifices of our Nation's veterans will be remembered for generations to come.

I am honored to represent PO3 Compton in Texas' 4th Congressional District. It is a pleasure to award him the Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to our Nation and to the people of North Texas.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, November 13, 2023, I missed the votes due to a flight delay. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on roll call No. 643, YEA on roll call No. 644, and YEA on roll call No. 645.

HONORING MARJORIE MACRIS

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marjorie Macris who passed away at the age of 88 on October 16, 2023. Ms. Macris was a beloved community leader in Marin County.

Born in Chicago and raised in the Midwest, Ms. Macris attended the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana in 1956, where she received a degree in journalism and graduated co-salutatorian. The following year, she completed her master's degree in journalism and urban planning as one of only a few women in her class. After school, Ms. Macris worked for Chicago's planning department until 1969 when she moved to Marin County with her family.

Joining Marin County's planning department, she became the primary author of the county-wide plan adopted in 1973. This plan significantly impacted the landscape of the county, restricting urban development to the Highway 101 corridor and maintaining Marin's central and western areas for smaller communities, agriculture, and recreation. From 1978 to 1984, Ms. Macris oversaw the execution of this plan as the county planning director, encouraging new collaboration among cities, towns and unincorporated communities.

Beyond emphasizing inter-jurisdictional planning, Ms. Macris advocated for and prioritized environmental conservation. Many Marin leaders credit her with protecting the environment during a critical period of growth. And as one of the few women employed in urban planning at the time, she became a role model and mentor for other women.

Ms. Macris's commitment to conservation extended throughout her adult life and well beyond her employment with the County. She was a valued contributor to the Marin Conservation League, Sierra Club Marin Group, Marin Environmental Housing Collaborative, and Marin Baylands Advocates.

Ms. Macris was known by her colleagues for her wit and innovative thinking, and to her family and friends as a great adventurer. She traveled from Algeria to Pakistan and Patagonia, traversing desert and trekking through mountains. Ms. Macris also took up running and completed the Boston Marathon three times. She is survived by her brothers Roger Wiegand and David Wiegand; her daughter Natalie Macris; her granddaughter Charlotte Keilman-Macris; and her former husband Dean Macris.

Mr. Speaker, Marjorie Macris was a dedicated public servant and active community leader who left an enduring legacy in Marin County. I respectfully ask that you join me in extending condolences to Ms. Macris's family and friends and in expressing my appreciation for her decades of good work.

CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION FOR PETTY OFFICER CHARLES RUSSO

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Petty Officer First Class Charles Russo of Rockwall, Texas, and award him a Congressional Veteran Commendation. PO1 Russo honorably served in the United States Navy during the Gulf War and Global War on Terrorism.

PO1 Russo has always been drawn to a career in public service. He began his Navy career in 1990 onboard the USS *Wisconsin* battleship and the USS *Papago* ocean tug before advancing to the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS). Here, PO1 Russo worked as an Intelligence Specialist and Special Security Officer with a focus in counterterrorism. Eventually, he was selected to serve as an Anti-Terrorism Force Protection Officer. PO1 Russo's work helped to strengthen and expand our intelligence community's efforts to investigate terrorism. For his exceptional service, PO1 Russo was awarded multiple Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, the Armed Forces Service Medal with "M" device, and many others.

After his discharge in 2000, PO1 Russo was compelled to return to public service after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on our Nation. As a Navy Reservist, he was mobilized to assist in constructing secure rooms capable of handling sensitive information. He also had the opportunity to brief the Joint Chiefs of Staff on matters related to the Afghanistan War. For many years after being discharged, PO1 Russo has continued to serve our nation in various capacities. After some time in defense contracting, he became an FBI Intelligence Analyst. In this role, he investigates white-collar crime, researches terrorist explosive devices, and fills intelligence gaps where they are needed. I commend PO1 Russo's lifelong efforts to safeguard our national security and protect those who cannot defend themselves. His selfless service has been nothing short of outstanding.

I am honored to represent PO1 Russo in Texas' 4th Congressional District. It is a pleasure to award him the Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to our Nation and to the people of North Texas.

HONORING MICHAEL D. COLE UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT

HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael D. Cole upon his retirement from the United States Department of State after 22 years of service.

Mike embarked on his foreign service journey in 2001. Since then, his service has extended from Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. to U.S. Embassies and Consulates in Abuja, Bangkok, Budapest, Mumbai, San Salvador, and Vienna.

Mike assumed the role of Director of the Los Angeles Passport Agency in September 2020, facing head-on the arduous challenges and travel restrictions necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. As international travel has resumed in the years since, Mike's leadership in Los Angeles was critical in the agency's return to pre-pandemic productivity, processing passports for nearly three-quarters of a million U.S. citizens during his time as Director. In this position, Mike was a reliable, affable, and professional partner to my District Office as caseworkers processed passport casework brought to them by my constituents. Mike and his team provided prompt and satisfactory guidance in navigating these often tricky and changing requests.

Mike's dedication to public service is further exemplified by his service in the Consular Corps, where he has utilized his experience and expertise to mentor the next generation of Consular Officers. His work to assist U.S. citizens during crises, offer support in disaster relief, aid bereaved families, and protect vulnerable children stand as a testament to his commitment to the American people domestically and abroad.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to Mike for his service to our constituents of the 39th Congressional District and our country, and I wish him a well-deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, on November 6, I missed two recorded votes. Had I been present, on Roll Call No. 599, the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1607, I would have voted Yea. On Roll Call No. 600, the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 359, I would have voted Yea. On November 9, I missed two recorded votes. Had I been present, on Roll Call No. 641, agreeing to Tenney Amendment No. 100, I would have voted No. On Roll Call No. 642, agreeing to Tenney Amendment No. 101, I would have voted No.

CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION FOR SERGEANT BLAINE KLEIN

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant Blaine Klein of Josephine, Texas, and award him a Congressional Veteran Commendation. Sergeant Klein honorably served in the United States Army during the Iraq War.

At the age of 18, Sergeant Klein followed his father's footsteps and enlisted in the Army in defense of our nation. His duties took him across the continental U.S., and later to Iraq and Korea. In Iraq, Sergeant Klein served as a Human Intelligence Collector and managed teams of intelligence sources to strengthen the Army's informational capabilities throughout

the region. In one instance, he saved the lives of his teammates who were involved in a roll-over accident that put all of their lives at risk. Sergeant Klein prioritized others around him and helped bring them to safety at great personal risk. For his distinguished service, he was bestowed the Army Commendation Medal, the Meritorious Unit Commendation, and many more awards.

After returning to civilian life, Sergeant Klein has continued to positively influence his community while overcoming his service-related disabilities. He is no stranger to helping others. On a number of occasions, Sergeant Klein has stopped to assist those involved in vehicle accidents or medical emergencies. I commend him for continuing to be an upstanding role model for his community and family.

I am honored to represent Sergeant Klein in Texas' 4th Congressional District. It is a pleasure to award him the Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to our Nation and to the people of North Texas.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, on November 10, 2023, I was unable to cast my vote on H.R. 1105—Debbie Smith Act; H.R. 593—to rename the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Hinesville, Georgia, as the "John Gibson, Dan James, William Sapp, and Frankie Smiley VA Clinic"; and the Motion to Refer the Resolution Impeaching Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security, for high crimes and misdemeanors. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 643; YEA on Roll Call No. 644; and YEA on Roll Call No. 645.

RECOGNIZING RON SAPP'S 24 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITY OF FERNANDINA BEACH

HON. AARON BEAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Ron Sapp for his decades of dedication and service to Fernandina Beach. Mayor Sapp's 24 years of civic service as Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Commissioner spanned four decades and displayed an unwavering commitment to bettering our hometown of Fernandina Beach. I was proud to serve alongside him on the Commission, as did my father.

Fernandina is proud of Ron Sapp not only because of his dedication to his community, but also for his military service as an Air Force veteran. But no true biography of Ron would be complete without a chapter on Mr. Sapp—the teacher. Mr. Sapp didn't just teach students what to think, he taught them how to think, and that is something special. Generations of Pirates developed an interest in—and love for—public service—and for that inspiration, we are grateful.