

When she walks into a room, she is like a magnet—everyone is drawn to her vivacity and kindness. As much as I wish I could spend all of my time in Tennessee, I simply cannot be in two places at once. But that is why it has been such a blessing to have someone I trust implicitly represent me at important events in Williamson County and beyond. Her work to streamline the application process for new ownership of the Historic Downtown Franklin Post Office was particularly rewarding. Five Points is both a historic landmark and provides a crucial service to the community of over 85,000 residents. Thanks to her hard work, the Post office now has a new operator and is ready to serve the Franklin community.

I often leaned on Patti and her husband, Kevin, for advice. Together, they are a powerhouse. Their accumulated wisdom, knowledge, and experience make them an invaluable resource. Their combined public service and dedication to the State of Tennessee allowed me and my office to provide the best service to Tennesseans possible. I often encouraged my team to create “raving fans” of constituents through our service to the 7th District. Patti did that. Over and over again, she went above and beyond for Tennesseans. She exemplifies servant leadership in every way.

At the core of Patti's service to our great state is a strong dedication to her faith and the Biblical injunction to love one another. And Patti has done just that. Her love for God and her neighbor is one of the first things I ever noticed about Patti, and it's what has made her an incredible friend and colleague. Her passion for helping others hasn't been limited to work. She is active in her community, her church, and is a dedicated wife, mother, and grandmother. Her three children and grandson are the light of her life.

Because of her service, Tennessee is a better place—I say that without hesitation. My thanks to her for these contributions cannot be overstated. I know she will spread the same joy and excellence in every chapter of her life. On behalf of the United States Congress, Team Green, and a grateful constituency, I thank Patti Carroll for her distinguished service to Tennesseans.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF GEORGE WILLIAM OWINGS III

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of an outstanding Marine, Marylander, and American: my friend, George William Owings III. I had the privilege of working with him when he served in the Maryland House of Delegates and during his tenure as the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs. On October 31, he passed away at the age of 78. His passing was a great loss for our state and country.

Although born in Florida, George was Marylander to his core, growing up in Calvert County and attending Calvert High School and the University of Maryland, College Park. From a young age, he showed tremendous commitment to his community and his country. In 1964, George left UMD to enlist in the

United States Marine Corps. Serving multiple tours in Vietnam, George attained the rank of Sergeant and received numerous commendations, including the Presidential Citation, Navy Unit Commendation with Bronze Star Device, Navy-Marine Corps Medal, and Vietnam Service Medal with Silver Star Device.

George continued to serve when he returned to Maryland. After finding success in banking, he started a career in Maryland politics. Governor William Donald Schaefer appointed him to serve in the House of Delegates in 1988. He won reelection multiple times and remained in the House of Delegates for sixteen years—ten of which he served as House Majority Whip.

Recognizing George's character, skill as a legislator, and experiences as a veteran, Governor Robert Ehrlich appointed him to serve as Secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs in 2004. Later, in 2007, Governor Martin O'Malley asked George to stay on as acting Secretary for the department, which he did for six months. Eight years later, Governor Larry Hogan asked him to serve in the role once again. That Democratic and Republican governors alike believed George was best suited to serve the needs of his fellow veterans is a testament to his strong reputation and record of getting things done.

George was a crucial advocate for veterans, military families, and all Marylanders. I join them in mourning his loss. My prayers are with his son George, grandsons Patrick and Emerson, life-partner Katherine Marie Boyd, and the rest of the family and friends he cherished above all else. I hope they can take some comfort in knowing that George's positive impact on our state and our people will forever endure.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in praying for George and all those who mourn him.

OUTSTANDING TX-08 CITIZEN

HON. MORGAN LUTTRELL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

Mr. LUTTRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize an outstanding constituent and honorable veteran from Willis, Texas, Mr. Kyle Puls. It is my privilege to stand before you and pay tribute to Mr. Puls, as he has shown the ultimate act of compassion and unwavering selflessness to his family and his community.

Mr. Puls grew up in the Montgomery County, TX in the small town of Willis. He served our country for more than three years in the United States Navy. Due to an unfortunate motorcycle accident, Kyle was honorably discharged.

In 2022, Kyle's cousin, Travis Glenn Puls, who was diagnosed with diabetes at age 12, contracted COVID, sending his kidneys into critical condition. Driven to take action that would help his cousin, Kyle underwent testing, hoping to be a match for a kidney transplant to Travis. Unfortunately, he was not a match.

Instead of giving up, Kyle found other ways to take action. He got involved in the Kidney Swap Program, which enabled him to donate his kidney to Brittany Flowers, who also resides in TX-08. Similarly, Brittany had a donor who was not her match, so her kidney went to

another person in need, ensuring that Travis would receive a kidney. Because of Kyle's sacrifice, three people were ultimately saved during this series of procedures that took place in January of this year in Houston, TX.

I am incredibly proud to have constituents like Mr. Kyle Puls in my district. On behalf of the people of the Eighth Congressional District of Texas, I wish Kyle and his family all the best and I thank him for his service to our country and his continued service to our community. He is the definition of a veteran who keeps on giving.

JUSTINE THOMAS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Justine Thomas of Westminster, Colorado for receiving the United States Department of State Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship. As part of this prestigious honor, Justine traveled to Cyprus to study abroad.

U.S. Study Abroad programs are an important component of the federal government's efforts to ensure Americans of all backgrounds have the opportunity to gain global experiences and work across our borders to help address our world's greatest challenges. The Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship provides exceptional undergraduate students with the opportunity to expand their cultural proficiencies, study critical need languages, and conduct STEM research. The scholarship has empowered over 41,000 individuals with financial need to engage in people-to-people diplomacy and prepare for distinguished careers in public service.

I commend Justine for pursuing an exemplary international education and representing America abroad as a citizen ambassador. This scholarship rightly recognizes a commitment to academic excellence. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize Justine's many accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF TROCAIRE COLLEGE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Trocaire College of Buffalo, New York, as this institution celebrates the 65th anniversary of its founding. Founded in 1958 by the Sisters of Mercy, Trocaire College is a private, career-oriented institution which strives to advance and perpetuate the worthy mission, values and charisma of that order.

As women of faith who commit their lives to God and their resources to serve, advocate and pray for those in need around the world, the Sisters of Mercy strive to advance a just world for people who are poor, sick and uneducated, and Trocaire College is a manifestation of that imperative.

With its roots in nursing and other healthcare professions, Trocaire has expanded its offerings to meet the dynamic

needs of students seeking to advance their careers in order to secure a better future for themselves and their families and contribute to the well-being of their communities.

I congratulate my friend Dr. Bassam Deeb, the president of Trocaire College, as well as the trustees, faculty, staff, students and supporters of the College as they announce that they have met and exceeded the goal set for their Funding the Future for WNY campaign, which is making a Trocaire College education more affordable for more students.

Again, I recognize this important institution and its work to improve the lives of the students it serves, and ultimately, the communities which they will serve.

HONORING DIANE BOYLE

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, Jr.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Diane M. Boyle for her 28 years of outstanding Federal service as a civilian attorney for the Department of the Navy (DON) Office of the General Counsel (OGC).

Since she began her distinguished career with DON OGC in 1995, Ms. Boyle has served in several positions, including serving in multiple acquisition attorney positions at the Naval Air Systems Command, and service as Counsel, Navy Region Naval District Washington; Deputy Counsel, Commander Navy Installations Command; and Deputy Assistant General Counsel, Manpower and Reserve Affairs. Notably, she became a member of the Senior Executive Service in February 2014 when the General Counsel selected her as Counsel for the Office of Naval Research. Later, in December 2019, the General Counsel selected her to serve as the Deputy General Counsel, OGC's "managing partner." During her tenure as Deputy General Counsel, she has impressively managed the personnel, budget, training and oversight of a legal community comprised of more than 1,100 attorneys and professional staff operating in over 145 offices worldwide.

Throughout her career, Ms. Boyle has distinguished herself as an extraordinary attorney who has made invaluable contributions to the DON on a variety of complex matters of significant impact to the national defense mission. From advising on the V-22 Osprey acquisition program, to overseeing legal matters in the Navy Trademark and Licensing Program Office, to steering the DON and OGC through the COVID-19 pandemic, Ms. Boyle has worked tirelessly to provide proactive, accurate, and innovative legal advice on a multitude of legally complicated issues across a broad spectrum of matters. Additionally, Ms. Boyle has brought innovative business acumen to the operations of the DON OGC, ensuring it functions efficiently and effectively. Her character and sustained work ethic has consistently enabled the DON OGC to meet its mission of supporting Sailors, Marines, and civilians executing the defense mission worldwide.

The daughter of a decorated Navy Flag Officer, Ms. Boyle has continued that legacy of service and has been recognized for her own outstanding contributions. Among her achievements, she has received the DON Meritorious,

Superior, and Distinguished Civilian Service Awards, and many other performance-related accolades. A dedicated civil servant, she is worthy of additional recognition before her fellow citizens as she completes her Federal career.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Ms. Diane M. Boyle as she retires from Federal service.

AUBREY MILLER

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Aubrey Miller of Arvada, Colorado for receiving the United States Department of State Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship. As part of this prestigious honor, Aubrey traveled to South Korea to study abroad.

U.S. Study Abroad programs are an important component of the federal government's efforts to ensure Americans of all backgrounds have the opportunity to gain global experiences and work across our borders to help address our world's greatest challenges. The Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship provides exceptional undergraduate students with the opportunity to expand their cultural proficiencies, study critical need languages, and conduct STEM research. The scholarship has empowered over 41,000 individuals with financial need to engage in people-to-people diplomacy and prepare for distinguished careers in public service.

I commend Aubrey for pursuing an exemplary international education and representing America abroad as a citizen ambassador. This scholarship rightly recognizes a commitment to academic excellence. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize Aubrey's many accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. AGONAFAER SHIFERAW

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and lasting contributions of Mr. Agonafer Shiferaw, a critical leader and steward of progress in the Bay Area community. Mr. Shiferaw leaves behind an indelible legacy of love, leadership, and service to his community and family.

Born in Ethiopia in 1952, Mr. Shiferaw's passion for knowledge led him to California, where he studied economics at San Francisco State University. After he earned his bachelor's degree, he remained in San Francisco where he opened Rasselas Restaurant and Jazz Club, an Ethiopian restaurant located in the Fillmore neighborhood in 1986.

For nearly 30 years, Rasselas was a gathering place for friends, family, and loved ones to come together in celebration. It was a cultural hub within the Bay Area, uniting the community and offering residents and visitors alike

a space where they could join in shared appreciation of jazz music.

In addition to his crucial work as the founder of Rasselas, Mr. Shiferaw also demonstrated his sincere love for his community through his compassionate leadership and altruistic advocacy. He was committed to empowering and uplifting the Black community in the Bay Area and was truly passionate about serving others and giving a voice to the voiceless. His critical contributions made him a beacon of light within his community and undeniably improved the lives of those around him.

Mr. Shiferaw will be remembered not only for his decades of service to the Bay Area, but also for his genuine kindness and compassion. He impacted the lives of so many in his community and was known both for his leadership and the unfailing love he had for his family. His passion for service, valiant advocacy, and perseverance have left a legacy on the people of the Bay Area.

Mr. Shiferaw's enduring spirit will live on in his loving wife, daughter, nieces, nephews, and extended family. I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Mr. Shiferaw's loved ones. I know that they, along with the people of the Bay Area, join me in celebrating his life and legacy.

KATHERINA MOOK

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Katherina Mook of Golden, Colorado for receiving the United States Department of State Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship. As part of this prestigious honor, Katherina traveled to South Korea to study abroad.

U.S. Study Abroad programs are an important component of the federal government's efforts to ensure Americans of all backgrounds have the opportunity to gain global experiences and work across our borders to help address our world's greatest challenges. The Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship provides exceptional undergraduate students with the opportunity to expand their cultural proficiencies, study critical need languages, and conduct STEM research. The scholarship has empowered over 41,000 individuals with financial need to engage in people-to-people diplomacy and prepare for distinguished careers in public service.

I commend Katherina for pursuing an exemplary international education and representing America abroad as a citizen ambassador. This scholarship rightly recognizes a commitment to academic excellence. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize Katherina's many accomplishments.

HONORING AUGUST "AUGIE" COSENTINO FOR HIS SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I want to honor 94-year-old Korean War