

AERYOUS THRESHER

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Aeryous Thresher for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Aeryous has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Aeryous, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Aeryous's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Wheat Ridge High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Aeryous Thresher on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

RECOGNIZING NANCY QUIRK

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable career of Mrs. Nancy Quirk and to celebrate her retirement from the Green Bay Water Utility in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Nancy began her career in civil engineering with her studies at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. A Wisconsin-certified Professional Engineer, she worked at the Madison Water Utility before accepting the position of Technical Engineering Service Manager at Waukesha Water Utility. For the past ten years, Nancy's career brought her to Green Bay as General Manager of Green Bay Water Utility, the third largest drinking water utility in the state.

Nancy's vision, commitment, and perseverance has elevated the Utility as an industry leader that prioritizes the health and welfare of its customers. Thanks to her leadership, Green Bay Water Utility became one of the first in the nation to voluntarily remove all known public and private lead service lines.

The removal of lead service lines was no small task. Nancy facilitated her team's efforts to research records from the 19th and early 20th centuries to find potential lead lines, locate current property owners, knock on 3,000 doors to check pipes, and use specialized cameras and vacuums to scan lines for lead. At the time, utilities were prohibited from replacing privately owned lines, but the Utility worked with Wisconsin legislators to allow the Utility to replace 247 privately owned lead lines at no cost to homeowners. Nancy pooled funding sources for the five-year, \$8 million lead pipe removal project and led her team to replace nearly 2,000 public and private lines in total.

Removing lead service lines was a remarkable example of how Nancy's work benefitted the citizens of Green Bay, but her vision for the future of safe water in Green Bay didn't stop there. In 2018, the utility took the forward-thinking step of proactively testing for

PFAS. This allowed the Utility's water quality team to continue to closely monitor any PFAS as research evolves. Additionally, Nancy oversaw the implementation of unidirectional flushing for the entire distribution system, scouring of raw water lines, combining pressure zones, and instituting the Utilis Satellite Leak Detection System. At half the cost of the previous system, the Utilis system found potential leaks in more than 10 percent of the City's water pipes in the first year alone. The repairs to those leaks saved the City an estimated 30 million gallons of water.

An astute manager, Nancy's list of improvements to internal operations is impressive. As General Manager, Nancy oversaw the business of wholesale service to customers, adding a neighboring town and three villages. Nancy restructured the Utility and streamlined employee operations through improved communications, staff additions, and cross training. She instituted employee benefits, appreciation programs, and events. She also sought upgrades for technologies, equipment, distribution lines and the facility itself.

Nancy's passion for providing safe drinking water extends beyond the borders of the Green Bay Water Utility and its service area. A member of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) since 1987, Nancy chaired the Wisconsin Section of AWWA and is a past National Director representing Wisconsin. She served six years on the Water Utility Council for AWWA where she was the regulatory chairperson of the technical advisory groups. She was a trustee for Municipal Environmental Group-Water in Wisconsin and the Regulatory Committee for the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA). Today, she concludes her term as one of 15 representatives appointed nationwide to EPA's National Drinking Water Advisory Council.

Nancy's achievements have not gone unnoticed. She was awarded as a Distinguished Alumni in Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. She received the Leon Smith Award from the Wisconsin Section of the AWWA and was awarded the George Warren Fuller Award for Distinguished Service to the Water Supply Field by the American Water Works Association. Most recently, Nancy was named a NEW Watershed Champion for her work in improving area waters.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mrs. Nancy Quirk for her exceptional leadership and commitment in embracing the core values of the Green Bay Water Utility. She has made our communities a better and safer place. Upon her retirement, she leaves the legacy of providing safe drinking water for thousands of people in Northeast Wisconsin. We are grateful to her for granting us the security of knowing the water that flows from the Green Bay Water Utility to our tap is safe to drink.

HONORING CC AND REGINA YIN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Rep. JOHN GARAMENDI, to honor CC and Regina Yin's 30 years of service to our community

through the Yin Ranch in Vacaville. The couple's continued support to civic engagement is further demonstrated through their founding of the Asian Pacific Islander Public Affairs Association (APAPA) 22 years ago and co-founding of the Chinese American Association of Solano County (CAASC).

Both CC and Regina Yin are immigrants from China and Taiwan to the United States. CC Yin graduated from the University of Washington with a master's degree in civil engineering, whereas Regina also graduated from the University of Washington with a master's degree in social work.

CC and Regina Yin are the proud franchise owners of 30 McDonald's branches in Northern California, including 16 in our beloved Solano County. We are very grateful for the thousands of jobs the Yin family have created for the people in our community. Additionally, in May of 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, CC and Regina Yin donated millions of pieces of personal protective equipment including surgical masks, gowns, and hand sanitizers to frontline workers in Vallejo, the surrounding Bay Area, and nationwide communities.

Over the past 30 years, the 40-acre Yin Ranch in Vacaville, California has been filled with cherished memories and wonderful moments in partnership with the community. Comprised of many scenic areas, including the lake, Olive Garden Courtyard, Vista Pointe Event Center, Main House with Cottages, and a new Asian Heritage Center (Cultural Pavilion), the Yin Ranch is a beautiful and unique property, which hosts weddings and community events for public benefit.

The Asian Heritage Center was rebuilt after the devastating 2020 LNU Lightning Complex fires which destroyed the original structure. CC, Regina, and their family then quickly rebuilt the structure into a new 18,000 square foot indoor location with an event hall, wine cellar, and outdoor deck space to allow the community to quickly regain access to the important resource.

For decades, the Yin family has been dedicated to giving back to our communities in Solano County and throughout the state of California. They have supported hundreds of non-profit organizations, including the one they founded, APAPA. CC and Regina Yin responded to an alarming lack of Asian Pacific Islander (API) representation at all levels of government. With grassroots support, APAPA set out to engage voters, partner with the community, and develop API leaders of tomorrow.

Today, APAPA has over 50 volunteer-driven chapters and hundreds of student-interns each year hosted by public officials. The Yin family is committed to furthering APAPA's mission to advance the Asian Americans and Native American Pacific Islander (AANAPI) communities. Through leadership and civic engagement, CC and Regina Yin collaborate with diverse organizations, public officials, and community leaders to create awareness for AANAPI communities. They strive to fight hate crimes, address systemic racism, and provide opportunities for voices to be heard.

CC and Regina Yin have three daughters: Mary Yin Liu; Betty Lin; and Carol Yin. Their family believes in the American Dream and a legacy of community engagement.

Mr. Speaker, CC and Regina Yin have established a legacy befitting of their enduring

commitment and passion to serving our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor their work here today.

AMERICA GRANILLO ESTRADA

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize America Granillo Estrada for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

America has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like America, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to America's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate America Granillo Estrada on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

OPPOSITION TO H. RES. 927, CON-
DEMNING ANTISEMITISM ON
UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H. Res. 927.

Let me be clear—I condemn antisemitism on our university and college campuses in the strongest possible terms. If I thought this resolution was a good faith effort to combat antisemitism, I'd support it. Regrettably, that is not the case.

Like many of my colleagues, I was disappointed by the testimony provided by the presidents of Harvard, MIT, and UPenn. Calling for genocide is dangerous and intolerable, and the presidents should have used their time in front of the Education and Workforce Committee to explicitly condemn attacks against the Jewish community and affirm their commitment to protecting Jewish and Arab students experiencing hate. Those private institutions are now deciding how to proceed with their leadership and make amends for their offensive statements.

This resolution does nothing to address the problem of antisemitism on campuses. Instead, House Republicans are once again using Jewish pain to score political points. There are many ways that Congress can address the rise in hate—for example, implementing President Biden's National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism. Or, instead of cutting \$35 million from the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights that protects Jewish students on campus, they could join Democrats in fully funding the office. This resolution fails to do either, and instead of funding these important initiatives, the House Republican majority is continuing to hide behind empty words—and actions speak louder than

words. I uphold and include in the RECORD the comments made by my colleague, The Honorable JAMIE RASKIN (MD-08) made on the House Floor on December 13, 2023.

For these reasons, I must oppose the resolution.

*Remarks by Rep. Jamie Raskin per the United States House of Representatives Congressional Record, Volume 169, Issue 205, December 13, 2023.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose this resolution which, to my knowledge, would mark the first time in American history that the House of Representatives would vote to tell private college and university presidents to resign. I want all of my colleagues to think very seriously about what this means for us today and in the future.

We are all profoundly disturbed by the resurgence of anti-Semitism and racism in campus towns, including death threats, serious death threats against Jewish students at Cornell, and actual shootings and attempted murder of three Palestinian-American students in Burlington, Vermont.

We all want to express our outrage in House resolutions, which we have done more than 20 times as a House of Representatives, and numerous times even since October 7. For example, on November 2, we passed H. Res. 798, which condemned all forms of anti-Semitism on college campuses, denounced any support for terrorist groups on campus, reaffirmed the free speech rights of Jewish students and faculty, and urged enforcement of Federal civil rights laws to protect Jewish students against anti-Semitism.

Why do we need this resolution? The only thing new about it is it would have the U.S. House of Representatives call specifically for the resignation of two college presidents, a call that has been slipped in at the bottom of page 2 of the resolution.

This extraordinary passage comes close to being what the Constitution calls a bill of attainder, which is the unconstitutional imposition by Congress on a specific citizen or citizens of a criminal punishment or stigma by the Congress itself. Although this resolution is not a criminal punishment or stigma against specific citizens, it is undoubtedly a civil punishment and stigma against specific American citizens.

How many of you would like the president of the college where you went or where your children go to be walking around with a congressional resolution telling them to resign?

Everyone knows that this will be an academic scarlet letter and a professional death sentence for anyone carrying it around. Does anyone think that UPenn President Liz Magill, who has already resigned in the face of Ms. STEFANIK's ceaseless campaign to force her out, will ever be able to find another college presidency? Give me a break.

Now, I hold no brief for the college presidents' overly legalistic, ethically tone-deaf answers awkwardly advanced in response to Ms. STEFANIK's rapidfire, yes-no questions. It should not be difficult for anybody to say in an age of rampant gun violence and lax Republican gun laws, which have put tens of millions of AR-15s in circulation in our society, anyone calling for genocide of the Jews, or anyone else, should be sent immediately a campus security detail to see if they pose the risk of harm to other people or if they need an immediate mental health exam. If there is not an imminent threat, surely the call for genocide of the Jews by definition constitutes a hostile learning environment and should occasion aggressive disciplinary action.

Where is the common sense on the part of the college presidents? Where is the common sense in the Congress of the United States of America?

Calling for the resignation of private individuals at private universities would be a dramatic and unprecedented departure for the U.S. Congress, which has never before voted to tell a college president to resign.

Before we affix this lifelong stigma, reproach, and dishonor on a private citizen, do you think perhaps we should offer them some kind of due process, the kind of due process that even George Santos got and that Donald Trump is getting all over America right now for his 91 Federal and State felony charges?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MEUSER). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, should Harvard President Claudine Gay, who is the first Haitian American ever to serve in that position, and Sally Kornbluth, who is Jewish, get the chance to explain what they are actually doing to combat racism and anti-Semitism at their schools and what they have done in their lives and in their careers to oppose anti-Semitism and racism, which are the gateways to destruction of liberal democracy? Do we care about that, or is this just a bunch of drive-by talking points?

Is it relevant that the Harvard and MIT boards have made unanimous statements affirming the leadership of their two college presidents? Are we saying that their boards don't matter or they are indifferent to anti-Semitism and the leaders of the Freedom Caucus know better than the Jewish president of MIT what anti-Semitism is?

Now I know these two were the presidents testifying before Ms. STEFANIK, but are we sure that these two are even the worst in the country when it comes to bias and discrimination? Is this a one-shot deal, or, as Ms. STEFANIK promises, is this just the beginning? Are we going to go through all of the college and university presidents in America? What about the CEOs of the businesses? Maybe they are not performing to her satisfaction either.

Indeed, maybe there are college presidents who have looked the other way in not hypothetical cases of anti-Semitism and racism but real cases of anti-Semitism and racism. What about them? Are we going to let them go, or are we going to go after them? Maybe we should determine who the worst are before we start using the resources of the House of Representatives to call for people to resign.

Are there college presidents, by the way, who looked the other way when there was sexual abuse of college male wrestling team members, rape of students, or female gymnasts or female soccer players? Are we interested in that now that we are superintending higher education in America, now that we are the appellate review board for the colleges?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, are we prepared to become the national academic appeals panel for college presidents, coaches, and professors, or is that perhaps best left to the universities themselves?

Maybe it is that we just don't have a positive legislative agenda of our own to lower drug prices in America, to get aid to our democratic allies in Ukraine against the fascist imperialist thug Vladimir Putin. Maybe we don't have anything real to do, so we decide instead to go around and start lecturing