

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and recognizing Guillermo A. Ahumada for his tireless efforts, professional accomplishments, and contributions to the Latino community.

JUSTIN VALDEZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

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

Justin has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Justin, 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 Justin'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 Justin Valdez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING THE PHOEBUS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM ON THEIR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Phoebus High School Football Team from Hampton, Virginia on becoming the Virginia High School League's Class 4 State Champions.

On Saturday, December 9, 2023, the Phoebus Phantoms won the Class 4 State Championship Game against the Salem High School Spartans with a score of 21–14. This is the third year in a row Phoebus High School has claimed a state championship title following two consecutive victories in the Class 3 division. Led by Coach Jeremy Blunt, the Phantoms won this title on the tail end of an equally astounding season. Phoebus High School closed their season undefeated, with a record of 15 wins and 0 losses, and maintained a 35-game winning streak going back to the two previous seasons.

Throughout the game, the Phantoms and Spartans fought back and forth for control of the scoreboard, with the victor only being determined in the final moments of the game. The two teams, tied 14–14, were seemingly set for a showdown in overtime. But with one second remaining on the clock, freshman quarterback Maurikus Banks completed a pass to senior wide receiver Keyontae Gray, who ran the ball for an 86-yard touchdown to secure the championship. The determination it took for these young athletes to keep fighting down to the end is an example for all of us. Because of their hard work, they have made our community proud.

Mr. Speaker, I want to again congratulate the Phoebus High School Football Team and thank Coach Blunt, the parents, and the entire

Phoebus High School community for supporting these students throughout this remarkable season. I wish them the best in their future endeavors, and I wish the program continued success.

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT JAVIER MILEI

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the American people extend congratulations to the Honorable Javier Milei on being sworn in as the President of Argentina on Sunday, December 10, 2023. His success as a member of the Argentine Chamber of Deputies, as well as a macroeconomics professor, author, and radio host, demonstrates his ability to be a great versatile leader.

Best wishes to President Javier Milei for continued success to address Argentina's economic crisis alleviating poverty, creating jobs, and promoting prosperity.

Historically Argentina with its enterprising citizens and natural resources has been recognized for extraordinary capabilities. I still cherish, as a teenager, in Charleston, South Carolina, meeting Argentine President Arturo Frondizi when he arrived at the Fort Sumter Hotel on the historic Charleston Battery at White Point Garden.

The inauguration of President Milei featured an overwhelming amount of support for him, as thousands of people from across the country and foreign dignitaries from around the world, including Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, gathered in downtown Buenos Aires on Sunday.

I am grateful for the commitment of President Milei to strengthen relations with the United States, support Ukraine in response to war criminal Putin's murderous invasion, and diversify trade away from China, currently their second-largest trade nation. Free nations must work together as our adversaries threaten national security and sovereignty.

President Zelensky wrote this week that "Freedom is what unites us, Ukraine and Argentina. We truly cherish it, protect it, and stand ready to strengthen it together."

I look forward to working with President Milei on achieving Peace Through Strength, in the war we did not choose between Dictators with Rule of Gun against Democracies with Rule of Law.

RENEE HERNANDEZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

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

Renee has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Renee, 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 Renee's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada K–8 School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Renee Hernandez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING TAYLOR DOGGETT FOR HER PUBLIC SERVICE ON BEHALF OF THE 39TH DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Taylor Doggett and her tremendous work as my Communications Director. In her time in my office, she has been an outstanding leader, mentor, and colleague. It is with gratitude that I thank her for her work and her talents.

From day one, Taylor has been dedicated to ensuring that the constituents of my district felt connected to my work, both at home and in Washington. She developed a streamlined process for expanding and managing contact with constituents on the issues that matter most to them. Under her leadership, we were able to expand our subscriber base significantly and provide accessible channels for the people of the 39th District to feel connected to their Member of Congress and this legislative body.

Taylor proved to be a strong advocate and valuable voice for our most important legislative priorities. She steered our communications team through some of our greatest legislative accomplishments, including the introduction of the Equality Act and the passage of the Korean Valor Act into law. Despite the challenges of being in the minority, her innovative vision for our social media stood out. To the members of her communications team, she has been a mentor and a model of running an effective, relationship-based comms shop.

Above all, Taylor has been a joyful presence in my office. She is cheerful, sharp, and quick-witted, and her jokes often make it to my social media pages. She is known for always being good for a laugh or a heart-to-heart chat among my staff. Wherever she may go down the road, she will always be a member of Team Takano.

I am enormously grateful to Taylor for her contributions. She will be dearly missed, and I wish her luck in her next adventure.

HONORING SHERIFF CULLEN TALTON

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the career of a devoted patriot and civil servant in Houston County, Georgia, Sheriff Cullen Talton.

Mr. Talton's dedicated career in law enforcement has spanned over five decades,

making him the longest-serving sheriff in the history of the State of Georgia. Born in 1932 in Bonaire, Georgia, Mr. Talton was a Houston County commissioner and a dairy farmer before being elected sheriff in 1972.

When he first took office, Mr. Talton was responsible for a department of just 28 employees, which has grown to over 300 today. Additionally, Houston County had a population of 63,000 in 1972 and now boasts over 170,000 residents, which Mr. Talton has selflessly dedicated his career to protecting and serving. He is a shining example for all law enforcement officers to aspire to.

Family and friends describe Sheriff Talton as a "role model," a "servant," and a "peacekeeper." He has embodied the meaning of each of these words to their fullest during his time as Sheriff of Houston County. I wish Mr. Talton a long and healthy retirement, surrounded by the family and friends he has served tirelessly throughout his esteemed career.

I would like to thank Sheriff Talton for his years of service to our community and our country. It is an honor to represent such outstanding constituents like him in the Eighth Congressional District of Georgia.

EMILY PETERSON

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

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

Emily has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Emily, 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 Emily's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Oberon Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Emily Peterson on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING MS. LUCETIA
MANWARING

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Ms. Lucetia Manwaring as she marks her retirement from public service after 30 years as a congressional staff member. As a Casework Manager in my office, Ms. Manwaring has established herself as a dedicated and distinguished professional with a demonstrated record of achievement.

Lucetia has served our country in many ways, including in the U.S. Navy from 1989 to 1993. During this time, she served on the U.S. Navy Submarine Base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; Nuclear Repair Division; served honor-

ably in U.S. Desert Storm campaign; and was a member of the U.S. Ready Reserve from 1993 to 2000. In addition, she has received several awards, including the Navy Wide Command Award, the National Defense Service Medal for Desert Storm, and a Naval Citation.

Lucetia received her Master of Science in Human Services from Capella University, and her Bachelor of Business Administration from Davenport University. She was a member of the Dean's List upon completing both degrees. Since 1994, Ms. Manwaring has helped thousands of constituents throughout the state of Michigan. Her tenure began as a staff member for my uncle, retired U.S. Congressman Dale Kildee. She met Congressman Dale Kildee while serving in the Navy and began her career as a staff member shortly thereafter. Upon his retirement, I was grateful to have her join my staff as well.

Ms. Manwaring's career is a true example of public service. Throughout her career she has been a tireless advocate for her community and her work has had a lasting impact on the lives of hundreds of Michiganders. I am grateful to be represented by such dedicated employees who work hard to make our community and Nation a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Ms. Lucetia Manwaring for her unwavering commitment to public service and extend my heartfelt gratitude for her years of service to our great country.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN BRIDGET
GREENE

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to recognize Captain Bridget Greene of the United States Marine Corps, for her service to Wisconsin's Eighth Congressional District and my national security team as my 2023 Defense Fellow.

Captain Greene started in our office as a First Lieutenant, this year's youngest defense fellow in Congress. From leading her Marines as a logistician for Marine Aircraft Group 24 stationed at Kaneohe Bay, to serving as the Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, she has made immeasurable contributions to the Marine Corps and to the Joint Force prior to joining our office as a part of the Department of Defense Legislative Fellowship Program. She brought her operational experience—especially her expertise of the Indo-Pacific area of responsibility—to our office and Armed Services Committee work, sharpening the tactical effectiveness of our National Defense Authorization Act policies focused on strengthening the American military's advantage in deterring aggression vis-à-vis China.

Like Peeps in the microwave, her influence was ever expanding. As duty called, Captain Greene not only crafted brilliant legislation to support in-theater logistics and streamline our military partnership with allies and partners, she also worked day-in and day-out with Wisconsin's veterans, and provided unconventional and matchless counsel on bill designations to guarantee awareness of my policy pri-

orities, notably the Deterring Attempts at Dirty Deals by Youngsters Act. While she is a native New Yorker, she quickly adopted the Northeast Wisconsin ethos by embracing a love of cheese curds, dairy animals, and Al Johnson's rooftop goats.

Through her responsibilities, she exemplified the Marine Corps motto "Semper Fidelis"—Always Faithful. This eternal and collective commitment to the progress of our nation and steadfast loyalty to the Corps is evident in every moment of her service to my office. From recruiting future Marines in our intern cohorts simply by being an example of what a Marine is and could be, to being a trustworthy and honest adviser on the most pressing issues of national security, and all the while demonstrating the highest class and unwavering kindness to my constituents and my staff, during her time here, she is a truehearted patriot and I am proud to call her a fellow Marine.

I wish Bridget the best of luck as she continues her Marine Corps career. She will no doubt excel and impress in her future endeavors, to the benefit of this country. I thank her for her service to the military and the people of Wisconsin, over the course of this year.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF THE
HONORABLE JOHNNY WAYNE
"JUDGE" McLARTY

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of The Honorable Johnny Wayne "Judge" McLarty who died on Monday, December 11, 2023, at Baptist Memorial Hospital—North Mississippi.

Born on May 28, 1950, to the late Clara Mae and John Murry McLarty, Judge spent his entire life in Oxford, dedicating his heart and soul to his community. Serving as a judge since 1979, he was the second-longest-elected Justice Court Judge in the State of Mississippi. Renowned as a devoted Ole Miss Sports enthusiast, he earned legendary status in Left Field and ushered in countless fans over the years. While he cherished his Rebels, his greatest joy came from supporting the Lafayette County School District and its athletic programs.

Throughout the years, he actively participated in various roles, including coach, umpire, and videographer. He even drove a bus route for nearly two decades. As a charter member of the Splinter Valley Hunting Club, he enjoyed numerous days engaged in hunting and fishing. Judge was a dedicated member of Taylor Baptist Church and the Mason Lodge #33 in Oxford, fostering cherished friendships among his fellow masons. In addition to his judicial duties, he volunteered as a deputy with the sheriff's department, served as a 911 dispatcher, and worked as an EMT at Oxford-Lafayette County Hospital. His ability to fulfillment in his career was a testament to his passion.

Judge was not only a central figure in numerous professional and personal circles but, most importantly, the cornerstone of his family. He never missed a significant event in the lives of his children and grandchildren, going