

Garrett and his family also run a statewide nonprofit called “Cal Rare” that focuses on advocating for rare disease patients.

For nearly 30 years, Garrett has diligently served the Alameda County community. His dedication to community safety and transparency has made him an asset at DPS and the community. I wish him well-deserved rest, relaxation, and many Major League Baseball stadium visits with his wife, Angela, and his children, Delaney, Cassidy, and Andrew, as he enters this new chapter.

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HONORING PHOEBE WOOD

**HON. MORGAN MCGARVEY**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Phoebe Wood as part of Women’s History Month.

As one of Louisville’s most active angel investors, Phoebe was named the 2016 Business First Louisville Woman of Achievement, and was named to the Junior Achievement Kentuckiana Business Hall of Fame in 2019. She currently chairs the board of trustees for the American Printing House for the Blind, demonstrating her continued commitment to some of our most vulnerable communities. I thank Phoebe for her service to Kentucky’s Third District.

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TRIBUTE TO DR. VITO IMBASCIANI

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Vito Imbasciani who is retiring after nearly eight years as Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs.

Vito Imbasciani earned his master’s degree and doctorate from Cornell University before attending the University of Vermont College of Medicine where he earned his medical degree. He then attended Yale University School of Medicine where he completed his internship and residency in general surgery and his fellowship in urology.

Dr. Imbasciani’s highly decorated career began in 1986 as a surgeon for the U.S. Army Medical Corps where he continued to serve for nearly three decades. During his time serving as a surgeon for the Medical Corps he also held the position of State Surgeon for the California Army National Guard, where he advised the Adjutant General on health issues impacting thousands of national guard members, while working as a field surgeon in Iraq and a Level 3 surgeon at the Landstuhl Army Hospital in Germany. In total he had four deployments including the liberation of Kuwait, Operation Desert Storm and the Global War against Terrorism, earning the rank of colonel and receiving awards such as the Combat Medic Badge and the Meritorious Service Award. In addition to serving his state and country, Dr. Imbasciani worked as Director of Government Relations and as a urologic surgeon for Southern California Permanente Medical Group (Kaiser Permanente).

During the time of his military service, Vito had to conceal his sexual identity due to the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy. However, because of the unwavering efforts of then-President Obama which resulted in the 2010 repeal of the policy—which Vito was recognized by the president as a source of inspiration for—Dr. Imbasciani and thousands of other service members can now serve their country openly and proudly. Vito’s support of the LGBTQ+ community is evident by the creation of a lecture fund, with his spouse, George DiSalvo, in 2013 with the aim of ensuring culturally capable physicians who can provide prevention services and medical care specific to the LGBTQ+ community.

In 2015, Dr. Imbasciani was appointed by then-Governor Jerry Brown as Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs and was reappointed by Governor Gavin Newsom in 2020.

Under Dr. Imbasciani’s stellar leadership, the California Department of Veterans Affairs has seen numerous successes, including greatly reducing the backlog of veterans’ benefit claims, assisting veterans with receiving home loans, providing funding for thousands of veteran housing units, increasing outreach to women and minority veterans, and providing legal assistance to veterans seeking citizenship. Other noteworthy accomplishments include introducing the California Transition Assistance Program (CalTAP) to educate veterans about their benefits, opening a long-awaited cemetery in Monterey County for veterans and eligible family members, providing veterans with much-needed mental health treatment, and one of his personal highlights, achieving the best nursing home ratings from U.S. News and World Report for their homes in Redding, Yountville, Chula Vista, Barstow and Fresno.

Dr. Vito Imbasciani has been an invaluable asset and outstanding public servant and I ask all Members to join me in thanking him for his service as Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs.

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HONORING RUTHANNE CONNOR-KING AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, as regular visitors from Syracuse, Ruthanne and her husband knew that Hunter’s Creek was the place for them after retirement in 2014. Ruthanne immediately began exploring opportunities for involvement. She joined her neighborhood committee and became an active member of the Council of Directors, comprised of all neighborhood representatives. She joined the Hunter’s Creek Emergency Response Team, whose training allows resident assistance in an emergency, such as a hurricane.

In 2015, Ruthanne was elected to the Hunter’s Creek Community Association Master Board of Directors. She has served faithfully and is currently president; she previously served as director, secretary, and vice president. Ruthanne has been involved in countless initiatives, including working with local

government to voice concerns regarding a proposal to bisect Hunter’s Creek by using the 417 as a highspeed rail corridor. She worked tirelessly to fight development of the former Hunter’s Creek Golf Course parcel, since current infrastructure cannot support dense growth. Her involvement in the community’s multi-million-dollar investment in responsible stormwater management has been crucial in maintaining Hunter’s Creek as a premier community. She was chosen by Commissioner Nicole Wilson to participate in county redistricting efforts. She is a proponent of a plan to maximize community greenspaces.

Ruthanne is very vocal about volunteerism and its essential role in maintaining a thriving and vibrant society. Though her career experience has served her well, she possesses qualities that easily surpass her business background. Ruthanne’s care for the community and its people is unparalleled. An advocate for open lines of communication and civil discourse, she is respectful of all views and strives to make the best decisions for the greater good, which can be challenging with input from a population of 25,000. Ruthanne is a strong leader and her indelible mark upon her community will remain for generations to come.

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INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION REQUIRING MEMBERS AND STAFF TO RECEIVE MEDICAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TRAINING

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

THE OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a resolution to amend the Rules of the House of Representatives to require every Member, officer and employee of the House of Representatives to receive medical emergency preparedness training, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED). Requiring all Members and staff to be trained in medical emergency preparedness would help ensure that care is immediately available to those in the Capitol Complex experiencing a medical emergency.

Individuals trained in medical emergency preparedness can provide vital care during medical emergencies. When Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords was wounded during a 2011 mass shooting, Daniel Hernández Jr., her 20-year-old college intern, provided Giffords with lifesaving CPR.

When responding to a medical emergency, every second counts. For example, immediate CPR and the use of an AED can make a critical difference for those experiencing cardiac arrest. CPR can double or triple the chance of surviving a cardiac arrest, and the survival rate of cardiac arrest decreases by ten percent for every minute that defibrillation is delayed.

Millions of Americans saw the value of CPR and the use of an AED during the Buffalo Bills football game on January 2, 2023, when Bills player Damar Hamlin suffered cardiac arrest during the game. Team personnel performed CPR and used an AED on Hamlin, likely saving his life.

Staff from the Office of the Attending Physician and Capitol Police officers, while trained in medical emergency intervention, are not always immediately available in a medical emergency. Widespread training in CPR and the use of AEDs can help save lives during medical emergencies in the Capitol Complex.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

HONORING THE LIFETIME RACING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF UPSTATE NEW YORK'S PAT BORELLO

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the accomplishments of Upstate New York's Pat Borello, an acclaimed NASCAR crew chief whose racecar was inducted into the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

Mr. Borello was raised in Watertown, New York and spent his childhood in close proximity to his father's trucking company. As a young man, he was enamored with trucks and their mechanics, and when his father collaborated with a local racecar driver in 1963, his love of racing took hold. He built his first racecar during his sophomore year of high school, and, in 1976, he began working as the crew chief for racecar driver Jerry Cook. Mr. Borello had an illustrious career, achieving the honor of being named the 1977 Crew Chief of the year and being a vital part of a championship run. Pat eventually returned home to his father's garage where he continued to work closely with local racecar drivers.

In 2007, Pat moved to North Carolina and reconnected with his old racing partner, Jerry Cook. He eventually got his hands on some original parts from Cook's championship winning racecar and began to restore the antique car back into racing condition. In 2021, the car was placed in the North Carolina Auto Racing Hall of Fame and was later moved to the NASCAR Hall of Fame's "Glory Road" in Charlotte. An honor which represents Pat's lifelong dedication to racing and his many years working to perfect his craft.

Mr. Borello's commitment to racing has led to the enshrinement of Upstate New York in the NASCAR Hall of Fame and shows what dedication to one's passion can accomplish. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, it is my honor to celebrate the many accomplishments of Pat Borello.

HONORING DR. KIMBERLY BOLAND

**HON. MORGAN MCGARVEY**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Kimberly Boland for her leadership at the University of Louisville.

Dr. Boland is the chair of the University of Louisville's Department of Pediatrics, and is a leader in the improvement of medical education both in the community and across our country. She also serves as the chief of staff for North Children's Hospital ensuring our chil-

dren have access to the best care. Her dedication to community advocacy has set a generation of medical students up for success. I thank Dr. Boland for everything she does for Louisville.

HONORING MARIA EMMA FERNANDEZ AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Maria Emma Fernandez, from Colombia, South America, came to the United States in the early 1990s. She has a bachelor's degree in the arts and has lived in Orange County, Florida, since 2003.

She has taught Spanish and art at various levels in school and has been a substitute teacher in Orange County public schools. In addition, she has worked with students to plan and organize programs and events related to Spanish language clubs.

While living in St. Louis, Missouri, Maria worked with Grupo Atlántico, a dance group, giving workshops and teaching volunteers how to showcase the art and culture of Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Maria, who is married and has a son, loves art, books, and culture. She started a club in Central Florida called Tertulia4gatos that now meets in 12 public libraries in Orange, Osceola, and Seminole Counties. This club encourages people to enjoy reading, listening to music, and performing. The group includes artists such as painters, sculptors, dancers, poets, and writers.

Maria is empowering cultural managers to help artists and writers find places to showcase their work or display their talents and to be recognized for it. Tertulia4gatos is now 16 years old and has more than 3,000 participants through various activities from weekly meetings to art festivals and book readings. There also is a club at the University of Central Florida. This volunteer program fosters unity among Spanish-speaking cultures.

"What would the world be without art," Maria said.

Maria loves all cultures and their accomplishments, but most important is her love for family, books, and art. Her goal is to unite her community, foster equality, and ensure that Hispanics remember their roots.

"I volunteer because art can change the world," she said. "We are inspiring hearts."

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. ROBERT "BOBBY" GARCIA

**HON. BRIAN BABIN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Robert "Bobby" Garcia, a United States Air Force veteran, an esteemed educator, and a respected member of the community in Deer Park, Texas. Bobby

passed away on March 3, 2023, at the age of 79.

Bobby was born on March 2, 1944, in San Antonio, Texas, to Elias Garcia and Minerva Garcia. Several years after his father returned from World War II, the Garcia family relocated to the Houston area, settling in Bellaire, Texas. At the age of 17, Bobby obtained his barber license and spent his time outside of school working for his father at the Triangle Barber Shop.

He stepped away from college and enlisted in the Air Force on January 24, 1966. He served three consecutive years overseas, which included time in England and Vietnam, where he was involved in the Mini Tet Offensive. When Bobby's tour of duty was over on July 10, 1969, he returned to Travis Air Force Base in California and received an honorable discharge.

Following his military service, Bobby went back to college, earning a bachelor's and master's in education and a doctorate in philosophy. Throughout his 42 years in education, Bobby received numerous awards as an educator and touched the lives of countless students, parents, and colleagues. He was always ready to provide guidance and encouragement to others.

In his retirement, Bobby served as Second Vice President for the Pasadena Area Retired School Educators and on the Deer Park Community Advisory Council. Outside of participating in church activities, Bobby focused on veteran outreach and was involved with organizations such as Disabled American Veterans, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign War, Air Force Cyberspace and Air Traffic Control Association, Tan Son Nhut Association, and Vietnam Veterans of America.

Bobby was a treasured resource for my staff and me, often working with us to ensure local veterans received their rightful benefits. He also served on my Service Academy selection panel for the last seven years. His service in the Air Force and decades in education provided us with an insight unlike any other as we evaluated and selected America's future military leaders. My staff and I will miss him dearly.

However, I know we are not alone. Bobby's magnetic personality will be missed and remembered by all who had the pleasure of meeting him. He connected with others by sharing his stories, and he left behind a legacy of love, sacrifice, compassion, and wisdom.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara Garcia; his brother, Daniel Garcia, and wife, Carol; his brother, David Garcia, and wife, Lisa; his daughter, Shelly Jaynes, and husband, Russell; his son, Thomas Garcia, and wife, Cindy; his son, Kevin Lee, and wife, Kristen; and his son, Ariel Pena. He also leaves behind six grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, it is such a privilege to celebrate the life of a beloved community leader and my dear friend, Bobby Garcia. He would often quote, "If you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours." I am certain that those of us who knew him will never be without a smile when remembering his commitment to God, his loved ones, and his friends, and my most sincere prayers remain with them at this time.