

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING MS. MARIA ELENA GRIJALVA

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 10, 2023*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maria Elena Grijalva as she receives the Celeste Castillo Lee Patient Engagement Award from the National Kidney Foundation. Maria's advocacy began 36 years ago, when her own kidneys began to fail, and she found herself in need of a donor. Her brother, John Arriola, volunteered to become a donor without hesitation. While the average life expectancy for someone living with a kidney transplant is between 12 and 20 years, Maria has been going strong with her transplant for 36 years—a testament to Maria's resiliency that she has displayed throughout all aspects of her life. The National Kidney Foundation (NKF) is the largest organization dedicated to the awareness, prevention, and treatment of kidney disease in the United States. Each year, the NKF considers the efforts of advocates like Maria, and patients who work on behalf of others, recognizing the one advocate who best exemplifies the work of long-time advocate Celeste Castillo Lee. This year, Maria was selected as the recipient of the Celeste Castillo Lee Patient Engagement Award for her decades of dedication and commitment to advocating for patient-centered care and empowerment. Today, Maria and John work together to help others facing the same situation they faced over 30 years ago. Maria also devotes many of her efforts to educating Native Americans and farmworkers in the agricultural communities in California to raise awareness among high-risk populations about kidney health, disease, and prevention measures. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring Maria Elena Grijalva as she receives the Celeste Castillo Lee Patient Engagement Award from the National Kidney Foundation.

CELEBRATING RENAISSANCE HIGH SCHOOL'S CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. RASHIDA TLAIB**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 10, 2023*

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to offer a heartfelt congratulations to the members of Detroit Renaissance High School's Chess Team on their first-place victory in the Under 800 category at the U.S. Chess Federation's K-12 National Championship.

For four grueling days, the team competed in high-stakes chess matches against teams from all across the country. Their victory is testament to long hours of practice and championship focus and determination. The team

employed critical thinking and mastery of strategy, besting more than sixty other teams. This victory is Renaissance High School's first chess national championship.

Please join me in recognizing the Renaissance High School Chess Team for this outstanding accomplishment. Congratulations.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO DIRECT THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION TO SUBMIT A REPORT ON HELICOPTER AND ROTOCRAFT NOISE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 10, 2023*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, on April 7th, I introduced a bill that would direct the Secretary of Transportation to submit a report to Congress containing recommendations on how to reduce helicopter noise in the District of Columbia. Recommendations would include altitude, number of flights, flight paths, time of day of flights, types of aircraft, operating procedures and pilot training. The Secretary would be required to consult with any federal agencies or departments that fly helicopters in D.C., the Metropolitan Police Department, any medical helicopter operators that routinely fly in D.C. and any other operator that routinely flies a helicopter in D.C. The report would be due to Congress no later than 180 days after the enactment of the bill.

Even though D.C. has the most restricted airspace in the country, I hear from D.C. residents almost daily about the negative impact of helicopter noise on their lives. The noise can harm health and quality of life, and helicopters can even harm the structural integrity of homes. While I recognize the need for helicopters in D.C., the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Congress must do more to mitigate the harm to D.C. residents.

In 2019, I led members of the National Capital Region (NCR) in requesting that the Government Accountability Office (GAO) study helicopter noise in the NCR. In 2021, GAO issued its report. GAO found that there had been nearly 90,000 helicopter flights in the NCR from 2017 to 2019. GAO recommended that the FAA develop a mechanism to exchange helicopter noise information with operators in the NCR. The FAA has indicated it is establishing such a mechanism. In February, I introduced the Reducing Helicopter Noise in the District of Columbia Act, which would require all helicopters in D.C. to fly at the maximum altitude permitted by the FAA in D.C., with limited exceptions.

I urge my colleagues to support both bills.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF CHARLES BAUER, JR.

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 10, 2023*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Charles Bauer, Jr., a resident of Halifax, Massachusetts, who turns 100 on April 21, 2023.

Mr. Bauer was born in Hanover, Massachusetts, in 1923 to parents Charles and Alice Bauer. In 1942, Mr. Bauer joined the war effort in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater and diligently served our country as a staff sergeant in the U.S. Army Air Corps where he operated the ball turret gunner on B-24 planes. Mr. Bauer's commitment to protecting our country throughout his years of service did not go unnoticed; Mr. Bauer was awarded the Air Medal, Distinguished Unit Badge, Good Conduct Medal, and the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Campaign Ribbon with three battle stars.

Mr. Bauer completed his military service in 1945, and married his wife, Mary, that same year. Together they had three children: Nancy, Linda, and Charles. Following the war, Mr. Bauer returned to Massachusetts and worked as a plant electrician supervisor at Goddard Memorial Hospital for 30 years until he retired in 1988. Mr. Bauer now enjoys working with ham radios and spending time with his friends and family, including his 10 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Mr. Charles Bauer, Jr., on this joyous occasion of his 100th birthday. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing him many more years of health and happiness.

DESIGNATION OF DEFENSE ACCESS ROADS AROUND TRAVIS AND BEALE AIR FORCE BASES AND SIERRA ARMY DEPOT

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 10, 2023*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today I reintroduce legislation that would designate vital roads around Travis and Beale Air Force Bases and Sierra Army Depot in northern California, under the Defense Access Road Program. I thank my colleague Congressman DOUG LAMALFA (R-CA01), who represents the neighboring Congressional district, for being the bill's original cosponsor.

Military installations play important roles in communities around the country, but also pose unique challenges by increasing traffic and subjecting civilian roadways to harsh use from heavy military equipment. In California, Travis and Beale Air Force Bases and Sierra Army Depot were built with infrastructure to

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

support the size of the communities and the bases at the time. Over the decades, both the civilian and military populations have outgrown the current roads providing base access to the gates.

The Defense Access Road Program exists to support communities in precisely this situation, enabling the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) and service branches to pay for maintenance, upkeep, or upgrades of roads surrounding military installations. This ensures communities hosting bases have the infrastructure needed to support national security and civilian use. Certain roads surrounding Travis and Beale Air Force Bases are currently designated under the Defense Access Road Program. My legislation would designate the remaining access roads for each base under the program. It is necessary for the DOD to provide for maintenance and repairs as DOD use of the access roads continues and increases, to reduce the financial burden on the State.

As the Ranking Member of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness, I continue to work on proactive investments to support national security while also ensuring that communities around our military bases have the support they need. I plan to make these Defense Access Road designations a major priority for the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2024.

Travis and Beale Air Force Bases and Sierra Army Depot and the surrounding areas must have the world-class infrastructure needed to carry out their mission. The legislation I reintroduce today would ensure just that.

**HONORING THE NATIONAL ACTIVE  
AND RETIRED FEDERAL EM-  
PLOYEES WOODBRIDGE CHAPTER  
1270 ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVER-  
SARY**

**HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 10, 2023*

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Woodbridge Chapter 1270 on its 50th anniversary. The Northern Virginia region is home to tens of thousands of federal employees and many retirees who have chosen to stay in the region. Throughout their careers, these dedicated civil servants have given their time and effort to serve their fellow Americans, and NARFE has consistently provided them with coordinated support.

Founded in 1921, NARFE is a nonpartisan organization dedicated to protecting and enhancing the earned pay, retirement, and health care benefits of federal employees and retirees as well as their spouses and survivors. Woodbridge Chapter is one of more than 800 NARFE chapters nationwide, with members located in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Panama. In Virginia, there are a total of 298,000 Federal Employees and Retirees.

The Charter for the Woodbridge Chapter was issued April 10, 1973. Today, the Chapter membership is over 200 with another 250 national members residing in the Woodbridge jurisdiction. Chapter members have had a

strong voice in many national and local legislative issues affecting federal retirees, senior citizens, and the public at large. Currently, the chapter has several members participating at high levels within the Virginia Federation of NARFE and at Headquarters, including the First Vice President, Treasurer, the Chair for National Legislation, and an Area Vice President. The Woodbridge Chapter is often recognized for its leadership.

This chapter has supported Alzheimer's research for many years through various fundraising events, especially its Fashion Shows in years past. On October 26, 2012, Woodbridge Chapter 1270 was recognized in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD by Congressman GERRY CONNOLLY for raising \$16,552 for Alzheimer's disease research in 2011 alone. Over the years, the chapter has raised more than \$100,000 for Alzheimer's research and is consistently recognized by the NARFE National Office and the Virginia Federation for its efforts. Nationally, since 1983 the NARFE organization has raised more than \$15 million for Alzheimer's disease research. The chapter is also a strong supporter of Prince William County's Action in Community Through Service (ACTS) organization through annual food drives and individual contributions.

In the past the chapter has participated in the annual Dale City 4th of July parade and has offered paper shredding events for the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Woodbridge Chapter 1270 for 50 years of dedicated service to Northern Virginia's federal employees.

Individuals in this organization are the lifeblood of our federal government, and I am grateful for their service and proud to represent so many of the outstanding individuals in this organization. I wish them the best for their anniversary and continued success in future endeavors.

**RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF  
NORTH TEXAS MEN'S BASKET-  
BALL TEAM**

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 10, 2023*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the University of North Texas Men's Basketball team for winning the 2023 National Invitational Tournament. Starting in 1916, the UNT Mean Green have a rich history. However, this year's accomplishment on the court is arguably the most exciting and meaningful.

On March 30, 2023, led by Coach Grant McCasland, the team completed their remarkable 31–7 season with the school's first ever NIT Tournament Championship. In doing so, the Mean Green successfully battled through five successive games, starting with dominating wins over Alcorn State and Sam Houston. They then advanced to the tournament semifinals with a chilling overtime win over Oklahoma State. The team then showed its grit to hold Wisconsin scoreless for over nine minutes in closing-out a final-four victory for the chance to redeem a Conference USA Tournament loss to the University of Alabama–Birmingham. They completed the run with a 68 to 61 NIT Championship game victory.

Led by NIT Most Outstanding Tournament Player Tylor Perry, Kai Huntsberry and Aaron Scott stepped-up to record double-digits as UAB unsuccessfully struggled to limit Perry on the court during the championship. Rubin Jones stepped-up with scoring and rebounds at critical points throughout the tournament, complimenting Moulaye Sissoko's domination of the backboard in each game and highlighted with his double-double in the victory over Wisconsin. A team accomplishment, the postseason opportunity and victory could not have happened without critical individual contributions throughout the season from Abou Ousmane, Jayden Martinez, Matthew Stone, Tyree Eady, Rasheed Browne, Christian Moore, Grayson Allo, Chris Morgan and Arsh Mattu.

The historic NIT Tournament Championship victory underscored the original strength of UNT's Conference USA schedule and set a new standard at a critical time for UNT's national profile. UNT became one of four C–USA teams setting national notice by either winning, or competing in at least the final four of the three major post-season college tournaments, as a final benchmark before moving up to join the American Athletic Conference this Fall.

The accomplishment is bittersweet, as it also marks the last game that Coach McCasland will be at the helm of the squad. UNT's President Dr. Neal Smatresk extended his sincerest thanks and best wishes to Coach McCasland and his family, recognizing that he "... has been a great mentor and leader for the student athletes on our men's basketball teams for six seasons, and he has taken our program to great successes including this national championship run in the NIT." However, a strong foundation has already been set for the next stage, with longtime Assistant Coach Ross Hodge announced as the team's new head coach, ensuring that opponents in the new AAC can expect no relief from the suffocating defense experienced throughout the season by UNT's challengers.

I join Dr. Smatresk, the returning team members, the UNT student body and Alumni in looking forward to the next exciting accomplishment to come. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the 2022–2023 North Texas Men's Basketball coaches and team for representing their school and community so well. Best wishes to the team's seniors as they graduate, and we look forward to another opportunity to celebrate the next exciting year and championship.

**TRIBUTE TO LOIS A. O'KEEFE**

**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 10, 2023*

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Lois A. O'Keefe, a public servant, a trailblazer for working mothers, and one of my dearest friends. It saddens me to say that Lois passed peacefully in the early morning of Wednesday, December 21, 2022.

I had the pleasure of knowing Lois for close to 30 years before starting my legislative career in the Wisconsin State Assembly. Lois was involved in the Wisconsin political scene,