

Legislature. During his time in New Mexico, Charlie also served as Acting Superintendent of 2 new National Park Service units: the Manhattan Project National Historical Park and the Valles Caldera National Preserve.

In 2018, Charlie joined the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, where he has served as the Chief of the Division of Communications, External Affairs, and Special Park Uses. His management of communications and relationships throughout the Bay Area has kept elected officials, their staff, and the public well-informed during difficult events such as visitor fatalities, the COVID-19 pandemic, and park closures. His professionalism has positively contributed to the reputation of NPS across the country. We and our staff have personally worked with Charlie as an ambassador for the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and value his partnership, knowledge, and skills.

Mr. Speaker, Charlie Strickfaden is a dedicated public servant who is committed to improving the accessibility, inclusivity, and quality of our national parks. I respectfully ask that we join in extending our heartfelt congratulations to Charlie upon his retirement from the National Park Service and in expressing appreciation for his decades of good work.

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA MELTZER—
30TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2023

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our Nation's women during Women's History Month. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Barbara Meltzer of West Hollywood, California.

Barbara Meltzer has had an illustrious career, which began in her hometown of New York City, where she worked on NBC-TV's *The Tonight Show* Starring Johnny Carson for a decade as Assistant to the Producer. She went on to serve as Associate Producer of several ABC-TV comedy specials, and later moved to Los Angeles to rejoin *The Tonight Show* for a brief period, before becoming Director of NBC-TV's Creative Services Department, where she oversaw major corporate and affiliated station special activities and events. Barbara went on to open her own public relations and marketing agency, specializing in non-profit organizations and aging related projects and programs, and joined the Los Angeles Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America, where she served as vice president of the Board of Directors.

Ms. Meltzer is passionate about serving and advocating for people who are 50 years of age and older. She is a longstanding member of Life Planning Network, an organization committed to shaping the future of aging through information, dialogue, and expertise. In 2007, she was appointed as a Commissioner on the Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults, where she serves to this day, and has been honored several times for her outstanding volunteer service for Los Angeles County's older adult population. Most recently,

Barbara was appointed to serve on the American Society on Aging's Ageism & Culture Advisory Council. Based upon Barbara's suggestion, the Council launched the nation's first Ageism Awareness Day, which was on October 7, 2022, and the Council is currently making plans for Ageism Awareness Day for October 7, 2023.

Over the years, Barbara has selflessly dedicated her time to serving West Hollywood in several capacities. In 2010, she produced a half-day symposium for the city, titled *Pathways to Positive Aging: Creating Communities for a Lifetime*. In 2013, Barbara was appointed to the Human Services Commission, where she currently serves as chair. In addition to overseeing the city's provided services and programs, the Commission at that time was given the lead in the planning and implementation of the West Hollywood Aging in Place/Aging in Community Initiative, to support the quality of life, well-being, and health of older adults. Devoted to raising awareness about Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, Ms. Meltzer was instrumental in creating a West Hollywood community event titled *Matters of the Mind: A Community Forum on Understanding and Responding to Alzheimer's and Other Types of Dementia*. She also serves as Vice President of the Friends of the West Hollywood Library's Board of Directors.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 30th Congressional District, Barbara Meltzer.

RECOGNIZING CPL. DELBERT L.
WHITE FOR HIS SERVICE IN THE
U.S. ARMY DURING THE KOREAN
WAR

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2023

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of U.S. Army Cpl. Delbert White—an Ottumwa native who made the ultimate sacrifice as a prisoner of war (POW) during the Korean War.

Cpl. White was only 20 years old on December 1, 1950, when he and other members of the 2nd Infantry Division were captured by Chinese Communist Forces near the border of North Korea and China. Tragically, after several grueling months in a POW camp, Cpl. White passed away due to malnutrition.

For over 70 years, Cpl. White's remains had gone unidentified. However, thanks to scientific advancements, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency was able to identify Cpl. White's remains in September of 2022. At long last, Cpl. Delbert White was returned home to Ottumwa for a proper service and burial on June 16, 2023.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Cpl. White for his service to this country.

May we find inspiration in his story and forever remember his sacrifice.

SECURING GROWTH AND ROBUST
LEADERSHIP IN
AMERICAN
AVIATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3935) to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize and improve the Federal Aviation Administration and other civil aviation programs, and for other purposes.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Chair, Congress should invest in supporting an aviation sector that puts people first to enhance passenger experience, bolster the aviation workforce, and promote safety for all. I am concerned that several meaningful measures proposed as amendments and supported in principle on both sides of the aisle, were not given fair consideration or debate on the floor. Although I will be voting in favor of this legislation, I urge the Senate to make improvements to the bill, including to maintain the current retirement age for pilots at age 65.

Raising pilot's retirement age would put the U.S. in conflict with international standards, which require pilots to retire at 65. Commercial pilots aged 65 or older will be ineligible to fly internationally. Junior pilots, who have endured financially burdensome trainings, will be displaced by their more senior colleagues, and have to return to a backlog of pilot training to requalify for new roles. These complications will likely result in higher costs to airlines and increased ticket prices to consumers.

Our Nation's premier aviation package should also include protections for the traveling public. The Biden Administration led the way in proposing measures to combat junk fees from airlines. These include banning family seating junk fees, requiring transparency in add-on fees, and generating automatic refunds for flight cancellations and delays within an airline's control. Taxes and fees can pad as much as 40 percent of a ticket's cost, and the administration's proposals would help reduce flight costs for travelers. Instead of building off those protections, this bill would interrupt the administration's work towards establishing these important protections. It also erases transparency protections that have been in place for more than a decade regarding disclosing taxes, fees, and surcharges.

America needs the stable, long-term funding provided by this reauthorization. It also needs reforms for safety, transparency, and workers which were excluded from the bill. I urge the Senate to address these shortcomings as this bill moves forward.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF THE
SELBYVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE
COMPANY

HON. LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2023

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the centennial anniversary of

the Selbyville Volunteer Fire Company. Just over 100 years ago, a group of young men saw a need in their community, decided to act, and established this company. Now, a century later, it has grown into what it is today—a critical part of the Selbyville community with a legacy of exceptional service.

In addition to this occasion being a chance for fellowship and comradery between those in uniform, it is also an opportunity for the rest of us, whom the members of the Company serve, to pause and express our gratitude for their selfless and dangerous work.

We in Delaware know the risk each of these firefighters takes when they put on their uniforms and go to work each day. And to take on these risks is as remarkable as it is inspiring. Our state would not enjoy the same peace of mind without people like them answering the call and volunteering their time to protect our communities.

In Delaware, we are incredibly proud to have so many wonderful volunteer firefighters up and down our state. I am proud to be their Congresswoman, and especially as a member of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, I am proud to be their champion in the House of Representatives.

Again, to everyone at the Selbyville Volunteer Fire Company, congratulations on this historic accomplishment and I thank them for their selfless service. Here's to the next hundred years.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF ERIC S. COHAN, CONSUL GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES IN CIUDAD JUÁREZ

HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2023

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary service of Eric S. Cohan, a career member of the Foreign Service currently serving as Consul General of the United States in Ciudad Juárez.

Mr. Cohan has served nearly 30 years to advance United States interests abroad. He previously served in Ciudad Juárez as Deputy Principal Officer for four years and returned in 2020 as Consul General. As Consul General, he leads a team of more than 350 hard-working State Department employees to assist and protect more than 200,000 United States citizens living in the state of Chihuahua and to facilitate trade and goodwill with Mexico.

During Mr. Cohan's tenure as Consul General, he has reunited countless families through lawful immigration, reduced a pandemic-era immigrant visa backlog by 67 percent, and helped keep our economy strong by issuing visas to truckers, agricultural workers, entrepreneurs, students, and others whose entry into the United States is critical to the economic well-being of everyday Americans. He understands how intertwined El Paso and Ciudad Juárez are to each other and that forging strong partnerships are vital for our economy and the everyday movement of both American and Mexican citizens.

Mr. Cohan and his staff do tremendous work to advance the bilateral relationship between the United States and Mexico, and honor the importance of the cultural, eco-

nomie, family, and historical ties between our two nations. It is my distinct privilege today to celebrate his public service and wish him well in his next assignment.

TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA LOMBARD— 30TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2023

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our Nation's women during Women's History Month. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Patricia Lombard of the Larchmont Village neighborhood of Los Angeles, California.

Patricia Lombard has worked as a communications consultant and writer since moving to Los Angeles in 1988. She served as a contributor to the Larchmont Buzz an online newspaper covering news from Hancock Park, Larchmont Village, and the Greater Wilshire areas of Los Angeles, since the inception of the site in 2011. In 2015, Ms. Lombard along with Elizabeth Fuller, acquired the Larchmont Buzz from founders Mary Hawley and Julie Grist, and over the years have produced thousands of local news stories. Patricia is currently the editor and co-publisher of the Larchmont Buzz which has given her the opportunity to highlight the work of neighborhood leaders and city officials regarding important local issues.

Ms. Lombard has been a tireless and dedicated volunteer in local civic affairs. She has served on the Fremont Place Association board of directors for over 15 years, and represented the Association on the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council until she joined the Larchmont Buzz.

Since 2007, Patricia has been an active member of the Hancock Park Garden Club, where she served as president from 2009 to 2011. She is a member of Larchmont Village Business Improvement District, Wilshire Rotary club of Angeles, Larchmont Boulevard Association, and The Ebell of Los Angeles, a women's nonprofit organization established in 1894, where she served as the organization's 64th president from 2020 to 2022.

For nearly 20 years, Patricia was involved with the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, where she served as a Trustee and was inspired to pursue local history. The Natural History Museum Seaver Center for Western History Research provided a key image of Larchmont that motivated her to research the story of this unique street. Patricia's book, "Larchmont," was published in 2015. Patricia and her husband, William D. Simon, live in Fremont Place, and they have 2 daughters, Emily, and Alexandra. Emily and her husband Dan live in the Larchmont Village area, and Alexandra is currently planning to move to San Francisco, California to pursue a career in social work.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 30th Congressional District, Patricia Lombard.

TRIBUTE TO BOBBY SALMON

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2023

Mr. McHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend Mr. Bobby Salmon for his service to the nation's largest insurance association, the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America, also known as the Big "I." Bobby is nearing the end of his term as Chairman of the InsurPac Board of Trustees, a position that he has held since September of 2020. During his time as Chairman, the committee has risen to new heights.

In addition to chairing InsurPac, Bobby has served with distinction on the Big "I" Board of Directors and Government Affairs Committee. He has been an effective and thoughtful advocate for independent insurance agents and small businesses across the country.

Bobby attended Western Carolina University and is currently an independent agent with INSURE in Raleigh, North Carolina. He entered the insurance industry in 1991 and has been positively impacting lives ever since.

In addition to serving the Big "I" national association, Bobby has been one of the most dedicated volunteer leaders for the Independent Insurance Agents of North Carolina. He has chaired the young agents committee, the bylaws task force, and the board of directors, as well as the governance & leadership committee. Additionally, he has served on the legislative & PAC committees, products & services, advertising, surplus lines, and audit committees.

Importantly for North Carolina, Bobby is also an active leader and philanthropist in his community. He serves in a variety of ways, perhaps most importantly as a volunteer leader for Ridgecrest Baptist Church in Durham.

I would also like to recognize Kim, Bobby's wife of forty years. Together they reside in Hillsborough, North Carolina and have three children Tyler, Jordan and Morgan.

The state of North Carolina is proud of Bobby Salmon and thanks him for his continued leadership of the Big "I", its membership, and the great state of North Carolina.

INTRODUCTION OF THE EXPE- DITED FEDERAL PERMITTING FOR CALIFORNIA ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the "Expedited Federal Permitting for California Act." This new bill would make permanent the U.S. Department of Transportation's program for eliminating duplicative environmental reviews for federally funded infrastructure projects. It would also make federally funded airport and port development projects eligible for this expedited federal environmental review and permitting. Only federally funded highway, public transit, and multimodal projects are eligible under current law.

Established by Congress in 2015 under the leadership of former U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), then-Chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public