

At-Large: Lady Lucy Capaldi and Lord Dr. Eric Goplerud

Braddock District: Lady Shari Zamarra and Lord John Rephlo

Dranesville District: Lady Delegate Kathleen Murphy and Lord Patrick Smaldore

Hunter Mill District: Lady Roberta Gosling and Lord Andy Sigle

Franconia District: Lady Sharron Dreyer and Lord Dr. Bryon L. Garner

Mason District: Lady Alis Wang and Lord Lassine Dombia

Mount Vernon District: Lady Shirley Short and Lord Ron Fitzsimmons

Providence District: Lady Nada Bashir and Lord Tom Biesiadny

Springfield District: Lady Cathy Turner and Lord Rob Hahne

Sully District: Lady Cathy Martins Muha and Lord Prince D. Howard

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending and expressing our gratitude to these men and women who volunteer their time and energy on behalf of our community. Their efforts, which are deserving of our highest praise, provide immeasurable benefits to their fellow residents and serve as a reminder of why Fairfax County remains such a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

CELEBRATING THE HOUSE CAREER OF MR. ANDY FLICK

HON. DAVID J. TRONE

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2023

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the career of Mr. Andy Flick, my former Chief of Staff, as he departs the People's House after 14 years to serve Vice President Harris as her new Director of Legislative Affairs.

When I was elected to Congress in 2018, I had achieved success in business, but I was a novice at operating in the halls of Congress. I had big ideas about what our country needed, and I knew I needed the right team in place to execute and help me be as effective a legislator as I possibly could. It was recommended I speak with Andy, who had significant experience in the House, an impressive professional network, and was brimming with ideas on how to run a Congressional office.

I hired Andy and we were off and running. Andy knew how to both move legislation and manage a team to bring out their potential. Our best conversations revolved around my experience running a business and applying it to management on Capitol Hill. From Andy, I learned from his insights into politics and procedure. As a manager, Andy ran our team with professionalism and empathy, and consistently pushed the team to achieve our shared goals. Andy helped me realize one of my top priorities in Congress when we founded the Freshman Working Group on Addictive—which has since grown into the Bipartisan Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder Task Force, a 140-member group dedicated to overcoming the opioid epidemic. We signed four bills into law my freshman term and chalked up more wins in the 117th Congress.

As a true talent, Andy was eventually offered a position he couldn't refuse—to become Executive Director of the New Democrat Coal-

tion. Over the three years he served in my office, Andy proved himself a consummate leader by hiring and training a team that operated with his same dedication to public service—and so was able to take the new opportunity, knowing he left the office in good hands. Similarly, he leaves the New Democrat Coalition for another opportunity, leaving behind a Coalition that is stronger and more impactful for his leadership.

I will continue to support Andy to achieve all his professional and personal goals. His hard work and innovative thinking have earned my respect, and his commitment to public service has earned my admiration. He will always be my first great advisor in public office, and a true friend.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the staff of my office past and present, I celebrate Andy's 14-year career in the U.S. House of Representatives and wish him nothing but success in his next chapter.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2023

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I inadvertently voted yes on Roll Call No. 476, Steube of Florida Part D Amendment No. 45. I intended to vote "nay" on Rollcall No. 476.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2023

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, in haste, I voted No on Roll Call No. 491, when I should have voted Yes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2023

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I missed Boebert Amendment No. 50. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall No. 481.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2023

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on Rollcall No. 417, and "yea" on Rollcall No. 418.

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY CHILD
CARE COUNCIL (4CS) OF ALA-
MEDA COUNTY

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2023

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleagues, Representative LEE and Representative KHANNA to recognize the Community Child Care Council of Alameda County, which will celebrate 50 years of serving children and families in Alameda County on Thursday, October 5, 2023.

The Community Childcare Coordinating Council of Alameda County, which later became the "4Cs" of Alameda County, was founded in December of 1972 to offer essential resources to assist families with a network of community services.

4Cs provides access to affordable childcare and family-focused services including childcare referrals, payment assistance, playgroups, free tax preparation assistance, car seat installation checks, and family workshops. 4Cs also supports local childcare providers by offering health and safety trainings, best practices seminars, and ongoing consultation support.

Operating with locations in Hayward, Oakland, and Fremont, 4Cs is governed by a 14-member Board of Directors which employs 75 team members providing services in 18 languages, including English, Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin, Vietnamese, Tagalog, and Hindi.

As a leading family resource agency, 4Cs has provided over 3,500 personalized referrals, 91 trainings, and over \$28 million in payments to cover childcare costs for 1,961 families in Alameda County in 2022.

For 50 years, the 4Cs of Alameda County played a pivotal role in ensuring families can secure culturally competent, high-quality childcare in Alameda County. They have truly embodied their values of diversity, accountability, professionalism, teamwork, growth, innovation, and friendship for all children and families. We join the Community Child Care Council of Alameda County in celebrating its legacy and wish it many more productive years to come.

FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH RESOLUTION

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2023

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, each year our country recognizes October as Filipino American History Month, a time for all Americans to celebrate the incredible past, present and future of our fellow citizens whose heritage lies in the great country of the Philippines.

I am especially humbled to do so as the Representative of Hawaii's First Congressional District, where some 190,000 Filipino Americans live, more than any other of our 435 districts throughout the country. With Hawaii's Second Congressional District that has the second largest Filipino Americans population at about 180,000, our Fil-Am community in

Hawaii stands at 370,000. In total, fully a quarter of all Hawaii residents are Filipino Americans, by far the largest percentage of any state or territory.

We observe Filipino American History Month in October because the first recorded arrival of Filipinos in the continental United States took place on October 18, 1587, when the “Luzones Indios” came ashore from the Manila-built galleon *Nuestra Senora de Esperanza* in Morro Bay, California. Today, across the country Filipino Americans have a population of approximately 4,400,000 and are the third largest Asian American and Pacific Islander group in the United States.

Many of the early Filipino immigrants were young men who came to the United States seeking a better life. Most found work in Hawaii, California, Washington and Alaska. This first generation of Filipino immigrants are commonly referred to as the Manong generation (Ilocano for first-born male). They worked mostly physically demanding jobs in tough conditions for very little pay. Over the years, they fought against discrimination, found a way forward and made a better future for themselves and their future generations. They became respected members of communities throughout our nation.

The history of the Fil-Am community in Hawaii is particularly rich and echoes the national story. In 1906, the first 15 sakada contract laborers arrived in Honolulu from the Philippines aboard the *SS Doric*, marking the first sustained immigration into our country and the humble beginnings of Fil-Ams in Hawaii. These first immigrants, those that followed and the subsequent generations eventually became trailblazers in politics and government, the military, business and entrepreneurship, journalism, popular culture, music and the arts and more.

Domingo Los Banos was Hawaii's first Filipino American school principal and a loyal veteran of the 1st Filipino Infantry Regiment that fought in the Philippines during World War II.

Carolina Dizon Wong broke a glass ceiling when she obtained an M.D. degree and became the first Filipino American to start a medical practice in Hawaii in 1952.

Peter Aduja became the first Fil-Am elected to public office in the United States when he was elected to the Hawaii Territorial House of Representatives in 1954.

Ines Cayaban was the first Filipino American graduate of the School of Public Health, Nursing and Social Work at the University of Hawaii. She received the prestigious Jefferson Award in 1986 for her service.

In 1994, Ben Cayetano was elected the Governor of Hawaii, becoming the first Filipino American governor of a state in our union.

In 2019, Roy Macaraeg became the first Fil-Am to become a general officer in the history of Hawaii's citizen soldier ranks.

In Hawaii, we also regularly honor the over 250,000 Filipinos who answered the call to protect and defend America and the Philippines in the Pacific theater. In 2016, President Obama signed into law the Filipino Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act to bestow Congress's highest honor upon those veterans. With my colleagues in the House, I have introduced our Filipino Veterans Family Reunification Act, which seeks to reunite World War II Filipino soldiers with their children, so that we can honor those living in our community who fought to protect the free and open Indo-Pacific that we have today.

Each and all of these lives of achievement are but a small sampling of a broader community that has achieved so much and contributed so much to the rich fabric of our country. And the story of Filipino Americans is still in its early chapters.

This is why it is important that we take the time to recognize groups like Filipino Americans. The story of Filipino Americans, and to an extent, the stories of all of our various ethnic groups, is the story of America. From very humble beginnings, they have risen through hard work, sacrifice, commitment to advancing the next generations and mutual support to achieve so much already. That well describes Filipino Americans overall—embracing the responsibilities and opportunities of America while honoring and treasuring the rich heritage of their ancestral homeland.

All of this is why I joined my friends and colleagues Congresswoman MICHELLE STEEL, Congressman BOBBY SCOTT, Congressman JAMES MOYLAN and others in introducing this bipartisan resolution to express support for the designation of October as Filipino American History Month. We urge our colleagues' support to promote an ongoing appreciation of the contributions of Filipino Americans to our country and the rich diversity of our nation.

To Fil-Ams everywhere, “Maraming Salamat Po” and “Dios ti Agngina”—congratulations. I truly look forward to partnering with them on their next proud chapters.

HONORING DAVE CORT

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2023

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Dave Cort's 32 years of service as the San Geronimo Valley Community Center's Executive Director.

Dave became the Community Center's first executive director in June of 1991. This part-time job was the first paid position for the organization and came with only three required qualifications: owning a truck, being able to lift 100 pounds, and possessing people skills. His role and the services provided by the Community Center expanded exponentially over the next 3 decades.

Dave ensured the Community Center was a successful resource for the San Geronimo Valley residents. He reformed the local delivery service, partnered with Lagunitas School District to facilitate after-school and daycare programs, and managed the expansion of senior services to include a new Senior Lunch program in the early 2000s. Understanding the need for recreation opportunities to promote community wellness, Dave also worked to build the Community Gym in 2010.

In 2019, Dave rallied community donors to seed the Deepening Roots Endowment with \$2 million. A year later, the COVID-19 pandemic underscored the need for financial security for the Center in order to provide critical services to the San Geronimo Valley community emergencies. During the pandemic, Dave assembled the Community Center's resources to bring vaccines, tests, food, emergency funds, accurate information, and a sense of community to the residents of West Marin.

Today, the San Geronimo Valley Community Center has a staff of 22 people and a

comprehensive mission to foster healthy communities within the San Geronimo Valley and Nicasio. Thanks to Dave Cort's dedication and leadership, the organization has become integral to the quality of life for the community, ensuring local residents have access to quality programs in the arts, youth services, senior services, community events, and more.

Mr. Speaker, Dave Cort exemplifies what it means to be a community-minded public servant. His contributions to the San Geronimo Valley Community Center and the people of West Marin are extraordinary and appreciated. Therefore, please join us in congratulating him for decades of inspiring work.

COMMENDING JOHN SHELL FOR HIS SERVICE TO ALABAMA DISTRICT ONE

HON. JERRY L. CARL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2023

Mr. CARL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Shell for his service to Alabama's First Congressional District. John Shell initiated the Eagle Reef Project, which involves deploying reef structures to foster marine life. These reefs are installed under docks or wharfs to filter and clean up to 10,000,000 gallons of water annually. They provide homes for many species of fish and crabs. John raised \$52,000 for 175 reefs in aims to expand the project to reach 1,000 reefs along the coast of Alabama, and eventually to Mississippi and Florida. He hopes to do a similar project in coastal areas along the Gulf and the Atlantic.

His environmental impact on our waters is remarkable. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING REUNION OF U.S. ARMY NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER CANDIDATE COURSE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to hundreds of United States Army veterans who are gathering in and around our nation's capital the week of September 25, 2023, to join in reunion of their graduation from the Noncommissioned Officers Candidate Course (NCOCC).

The program was established for the training of noncommissioned officers in the U.S. Army. The program operated at Fort Benning, GA, Fort Bliss, TX, Fort Knox, KY, Fort Sill, OK, and Fort Leonard Wood, MO, from 1967 to 1972, during the height of the Vietnam War. As a proud graduate of the program and fellow Vietnam War veteran, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and saluting these leaders, combat veterans—many of them wounded—and unsung heroes.

As the Vietnam War progressed in the 1960s, the Army was running out of noncommissioned officers in several combat specialties. In order to meet these unprecedented requirements for Noncommissioned Officer