

of the Bay Front Chamber of Commerce where she works to help promote local small businesses. Since joining the Chamber of Commerce, Sylvia has demonstrated outstanding leadership and played an instrumental role in fostering economic growth and development in Hercules. She has demonstrated her commitment to growing the economy of Contra Costa County by helping local businesses navigate a way out of the COVID-19 pandemic. She also serves as Director of the Hercules Education Foundation where her work has helped enhance the educational opportunities for youth in Hercules.

She has helped raise contributions from individuals, organizations, businesses, and institutions to enhance the quality of the classroom experience in Hercules's public schools. Sylvia is known to go above and beyond to engage with her community and approach everyone with a warm and compassionate nature.

On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Sylvia Serrano for her positive contributions to our community.

HONORING SAMUEL VILCHEZ
SANTIAGO FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 13, 2023

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, Samuel Vilchez Santiago, originally from Venezuela, came to the United States at an early age, escaping political persecution from Venezuela's authoritarian regime. He is a non-profit leader and advocate who has dedicated his professional career to fighting to protect the rights of Floridians.

Samuel has served as the Florida state director for the American Business Immigration Coalition, the human and civil rights non-profit manager at ActBlue, and the Florida campaign manager at the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, among others. He is also a board member at Alianza Center, the HOPE Community Center, and the Venezuelan American Caucus. He also served as a member of the Orange County Charter Review Commission in 2020, becoming the youngest member of a county board in Orange County history. Through these roles, Samuel has helped to effectively design and implement policies that have improved the quality of life of those around him, including protecting in-state tuition access for Dreamers in Florida, the designation and re-designation of TPS for 800,000 Venezuelans, the creation of the humanitarian parole program, and the critical environmental protections to clean water and the Split Oak forest.

Samuel has also worked to advance Democratic values and candidates at the local, state, and federal levels. He currently serves as the chair of the Orange County Democratic Executive Committee and is a member of the Democratic National Committee, making him the first Gen-Z person to hold both of these leadership roles. In 2018, he led a successful youth-run campaign to elect Johanna López to the Orange County School Board, making her the first Latina member of the Board.

Samuel graduated as valedictorian from Colonial High School in 2015 and obtained a

bachelor's degree from Princeton University and a Master of Public Policy from the University of Oxford. He is a recipient of former President Barack Obama's Volunteer Service Award, the Congressional Youth Award, and the Eisenhower Fellowship.

GINO MARTIGNETTI

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 13, 2023

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, this June, I had the honor of celebrating Gino Martignetti's achievement of the rank of Eagle Scout. Gino joined the Scouts at the age of eleven, beginning as a Tiger Cub Scout and quickly rising through the ranks. After transitioning to the Boy Scouts, Gino continued to thrive with the Scouts, and he has now achieved the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout. He is an involved member of the Scouting community having held several leadership positions over the years, including Chaplin's Aide, Den Chief, Assistant Patrol Leader, and Quartermaster. For his Eagle Scout Service Project, Gino generously donated his time and his efforts to build a gaga ball pit for Guardian Angels Regional School in Gibbstown, South Jersey. Gino will be continuing his education at Rowan College of Gloucester County starting this fall where he will be participating in their Physical Therapy Assistant Program.

It is my privilege to recognize his achievements and I wish him the best in all his future endeavors. God Bless Gino Martignetti and God Bless the United States of America.

HONORING REVEREND MARVIN
CHANDLER: PASTOR, PEACE-
MAKER, AND MUSICIAN

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 13, 2023

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, today I rise to honor Reverend Marvin Chandler, my constituent, and a renowned Hoosier who made profound accomplishments in the Civil Rights Movement, as a jazz musician, and through his work as a pastor promoting peace. Rev. Chandler was born in Bloomington, Indiana on October 3, 1929, and he was 93 years old when he died at his home in Indianapolis on September 23, 2023.

After graduating from Colgate Rochester Divinity School in 1963, Rev. Chandler was appointed as Associate Executive Director of the Rochester Area Council of Churches—as the Council's Christian Education Director. The following year, during the tragic Rochester Race Riots, Reverend Chandler served as a liaison between the Black community of Rochester and the Council of Churches. Working with a small group of community and church leaders he helped to facilitate recovery efforts from the 1964 riots.

Rev. Chandler helped establish the Rochester Area Ministers Conference and was integral in the launch of the Freedom, Independence, God, Honor, Today (FIGHT) organization, a community organization formed in the

aftermath of Rochester's 1964 riots. FIGHT advocated for change, taking on issues such as hiring practices, living conditions, and other critical areas. FIGHT leaders were also credited with stopping additional civil unrest when rioting hit other northern cities in the mid-1960s.

As a part of FIGHT, Chandler not only served on the steering committee, but also played a key role in FIGHT's negotiations with Kodak. He worked with Kodak representatives to develop a job training program for the large number of unemployed black Rochesterians. Similarly, in 1971 Chandler put his peace-making abilities toward efforts to resolve the prison riot in Attica County.

After leaving Rochester, the Reverend Chandler served as an executive with the San Francisco Council of Churches. He was a leading expert on the life of Howard Thurman, the noted theologian, philosopher, and civil rights leader. Later, Rev. Chandler was a visiting professor at Linfield College, McMinnville, Oregon, and he served as a visitor for a semester at Oxford University, England.

Rev. Chandler received numerous awards over his lifetime, including an Honorary Doctor of Divinity from Franklin College, Franklin, Indiana, and the Luke Mowbray Award for ecumenical work from the American Baptist Churches/USA in 2008.

The Reverend was also an accomplished jazz pianist, inducted into the Indianapolis Jazz Foundation Hall of Fame in 2003, and a recipient of the Ralph Adams Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life of a generous and inspiring leader, Rev. Marvin Chandler.

RECOGNIZING MR. MICHAEL
BOWERS

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 13, 2023

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize Mr. Michael Bowers as he is awarded the inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award from the African American Network of Kern County. Mr. Bowers is a Central Valley native, having spent the majority of his childhood and professional career in Bakersfield. He attended Texas Southern University and graduated with a degree in political science in 2005. After graduation, Mr. Bowers returned to Bakersfield where he began his career at Making a Difference, a local non-profit organization. Mr. Bowers joined my team when I was elected to the California State Assembly in 2010, first serving as Deputy Field Director and later as Community Liaison. When I was elected to Congress in 2012, Mr. Bowers joined my district office as a Senior Field Representative. His knowledge of the issues facing the Central Valley and strong relationships with members of the community were invaluable during my first term in Congress. After departing my team, Mr. Bowers became the Deputy District Director for State Senator Andy Vidak.

For over a decade, Mr. Bowers has partnered with local stakeholders on community engagement and economic development

projects that prioritized the well-being of residents in the Central Valley. In 2018, Mr. Bowers joined Centric Healthcare, where he currently serves as the Vice President of Public Relations and Government Affairs. Over his career, Mr. Bowers has been incredibly involved in our community, including sitting on the boards of the Alzheimer's Association, Kern Health Systems, and the Kern Law Enforcement Foundation. He was also the Chairman of the Board of the Housing Authority of the County of Kern and helped the agency raise over \$500,000 for the supportive living program, which provides low-income families in Kern County with the opportunity to become first-time home buyers. This year, Mr. Bowers was appointed Commissioner of the Kern County Civil Service Commission. Mr. Bowers has received numerous accolades recognizing his decades of service to the community. He has been recognized by the Kern County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Bakersfield Life Magazine, California Teachers Association, and other organizations for his decades of leadership, dedication, and advocacy for residents of Kern County.

Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating Mr. Michael Bowers as he is awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award and thanking him for his service to the people of the Central Valley.

HONORING THE 2023 WOMEN OF THE YEAR: TAMURI RICHARDSON

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 13, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Tamuri Richardson as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year.

Tamuri is a dedicated and passionate leader and advocate who has touched the lives of countless members of the Solano County community. Tamuri is President of the Solano Black Chamber of Commerce where she works to support, uplift, and build Black businesses. Under her leadership, the chamber has expanded its membership, growing from 50 paid participants to over 700, established the first Fairfield Juneteenth festival, established a Business Entrepreneurship Academy providing mentorship to over 25 new businesses, and secured multiple grants to assist local small businesses. She has also led the way in building relationships between the Chamber and elected officials, allowing her to advocate effectively for the needs of businesses in her community.

Tamuri is also a business owner herself as President and CEO of TLeanne Speaking Pros. She is an international best-selling author, motivational speaker, and mental health advocate who is known for her strength and resiliency.

On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Tamuri Richardson for her positive contributions to our community.

HONORING MARCELA RESTREPO FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 13, 2023

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, Marcela Restrepo has been a professional in the construction industry for more than 24 years. She is the co-owner of SkyBuilders USA, general contractors, and co-founder of the nonprofit SkyBuilders 4 ALL.

Marcela has served on several boards through Orange County. She is the vice president of Casa de Mexico, a member of the Women Business Advisory Board in Seminole College, a former member of the BOD Neighborhood Grants Advisory Board in Orange County, and a former member of the BOD Community Development Advisory Board in Orange County.

Marcela advocates for minority-owned businesses. She vigorously promotes to get certification through seminars that she is invited to or through her foundation. Her company was awarded the Don Quijote award in 2022 by HCCMO. She was also recognized as Mujer de Impacto 2023 by Mujer Empeñe Latina.

Marcela loves her community. With SkyBuilders 4 ALL, she created a food pantry in one of Orlando's local schools and they provided food during the pandemic to families that were struggling. Her foundation also provides financial education to young kids and promotes reading.

Marcela also helps the community through space that the Mexican Consulate provides, with financial education for the Hispanic community six days a week at no cost. That program counts on about 20 allies, including banks, financial institutions, accountants, and realtors all working as volunteers.

Additionally, housing is a priority. With her foundation, she has been able to help people in the community improve their way of living. Giving back to the community is a must in her life because she wants to leave her children, Manuela, Pablo, David, and Ximena, and her grandson Valentino, a legacy of pride in their roots. She will continue serving as long as God lets her.

GEORGE CAPPUCIO

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 13, 2023

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, in April, I had the pleasure of attending the Quilt of Valor Ceremony honoring George Cappuccio, a World War II Veteran who served our country as an artilleryman. During the war, he was stationed in Germany, France, and Italy and for each he can recount many harrowing tales. After the war, he moved back to Hammononton to care for his aging parents and has lived there ever since. During the 1950's, George and his brother started a local business called Capp's Greenhouse which was loved by many in the area. Throughout his life, George had a passion for music, giving trumpet and guitar lessons for years as well as a stint as a member of a

band. He shared this passion with his wife, Aggie, as the two of them taught dance lessons for members of their community. After celebrating his 102nd birthday this past February, George is now the oldest member of the American F.A. Funston Post 186.

I extend my utmost gratitude for George's service to this country and to his dedication to his South Jersey community. God Bless George Cappuccio, and God Bless our United States of America.

IN MEMORY OF GEORGE KHOURY

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 13, 2023

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, today, I want to recognize the outstanding contributions of George Khoury, a community leader who proudly served as founding board member of ACCESS, a leading service organization in Michigan's 12th District, as we mourn his loss.

Mr. Khoury was born in Jerusalem, Palestine in 1942 and immigrated to the United States in 1961, eventually making his home in southeast Michigan. Mr. Khoury knew firsthand the challenges facing immigrants and new Americans. Through his strong connections to the Arab American community, Mr. Khoury came together with others who saw the need for an organization that would create a welcoming space, as well as connect people with critical human services, such as English as a Second Language classes, career training, and healthcare. George Khoury was incredibly proud of seeing his vision for community empowerment come to life and to see ACCESS thrive and grow in the services it offers.

In addition to his monumental work with ACCESS, Mr. Khoury served in leadership roles at a number of local and national organizations. He co-founded the Detroit chapter of Arab American University Graduates as well as the Organization of Arab Students (OAS) at Wayne State University. He was an active member of the Arab American Anti-Discrimination Committee of Michigan.

Please join me in recognizing the legacy of George Khoury. He was an inspiration and a leader, whose loss is deeply felt.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LOUIS F. WILLIAMS

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 13, 2023

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today in recognition of the life and legacy of Louis F. Williams, a distinguished Navy Veteran who passed away earlier this year. Lou was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, who proudly dedicated his life to serving our country in the United States Navy. During this difficult time, my thoughts and condolences are with the Williams family, including Lou's loving wife, Theresa, his children, Katherine Arsenault, Frederick Williams, and Patricia Berube, his 11 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren.