

stands as a testament to the belief that one organization's dedication can ripple through the lives of many, sparking change, fostering resilience, and inspiring hope. Today, we honor Gene and Michele not just for their remarkable deeds but for who they are—true heroes in every sense of the word.

Mr. Speaker, it is through the work of people like Gene and Michele Rice that our communities thrive and our Nation grows stronger. Their actions remind us that progress is not forged in grand gestures, but in the cumulative power of selfless acts. They embody the timeless American values of resilience, generosity, and compassion, showing us that the future is built by those who care deeply, act decisively, and give without hesitation.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's First Congressional District, I extend my deepest gratitude to Gene and Michele Rice for their extraordinary service. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this exceptional couple, whose leadership and spirit of service will inspire generations to come. May their example remind us of the boundless potential within each of us to make our communities, country, and world a better place.

HONORING DARIO RAVEANE ON HIS 95TH BIRTHDAY

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dario Raveane, a remarkable American, veteran, and proud father who is celebrating his 95th birthday.

Dario was born on October 4, 1929, to Italian immigrants. Around two years old, his parents moved to California in search of work but quickly returned to Michigan to work for Ford Motor Company, who at the time was paying \$5.00 per day at the River Rouge Plant. At four years old, his parents shipped him to Italy for a brief period of time and, at just eight years old, Dario independently returned to the United States on the SS *Rex*—a highly frequented ocean liner.

In 1948—at 19—he graduated from the Henry Ford Trade School with a badge number of #1908. There, he specialized in learned machines and printing technology. From there, he received a recruitment letter from Ford Motor Company which he turned down because he had two months to graduate.

Dario's printing expertise became especially important as he considered enlisting in the military. His brothers Derno and Dino enlisted and Dario quickly followed by joining the Air Force. He received his basic training in San Antonio, Texas, and was stationed at Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina.

Dario's primary role was to run the print shop and quickly became the Air Force's expert printmaker. There, he received "Airman of the Month" and a letter of recommendation from his Captain. While he was considered for Lieutenant, he chose to end his military career and return home to take care of his parents.

After his service, the position at the Ford Motor Company was filled. Using his skillset, he hit the beat to local print shops. For 11 years, he worked for the Rotary Manifold Forms Corporation—one of the first compa-

nies to print employee checks. From there, he worked for UForma—a printing company which he partly owned. For a time, he owned his own company, Midwest Business System, which sold a multitude of printing forms, computer products and accessories well before contemporary business giants and supply stores.

After his retirement, he returned to work at JCPenney in the men's suit department. Dario is known for his dress attire, and he jumped at the opportunity to share it with others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dario Raveane, a true embodiment of the American Dream, on his 95th birthday. His life story is a shining example of the American spirit, and we are grateful for his contributions to his community and to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2024 ARTSFAIRFAX ARTS AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize ArtsFairfax and the recipients of the 2024 Arts Awards. These awards recognize the extraordinary contributions of artists, arts organizations, individuals, and businesses in Fairfax County, the City of Fairfax, and the City of Falls Church that support the arts in our community.

Founded in 1964, the formally named Arts Council of Fairfax County, Inc. is a non-profit organization designated as Fairfax County's local arts agency. Today, ArtsFairfax operates programs and initiatives that include grant opportunities, arts advocacy, education, and professional development opportunities for arts and culture organizations.

ArtsFairfax envisions a thriving arts and culture community accessible to all of Fairfax County. To support this vision, ArtsFairfax awarded over \$591,000 in County, public, and private funds through competitive grants and awards to 58 organizations for FY2025. Among those awardees, 81 percent are women-led, 28 percent have BIPOC leadership, and 24 percent are led by veterans. These figures reflect ArtsFairfax's commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility when it comes to the arts. The Arts Awards honors supporters of the arts in four categories: the Jinx Hazel Arts Award, the Philanthropy Award, the Achievement Award, and the Innovation Award.

It is my honor to include in the RECORD the following names of the 2024 Arts Awards Recipients:

The 2024 Jinx Hazel Arts Award, ArtsFairfax's premier award recognizing an individual or organization whose vision and commitment has helped shape the cultural life of Fairfax County, will be presented to the Peterson Family Foundation.

The 2024 Philanthropy Award will be presented to Anne Kline.

The 2024 Achievement Award will be presented to Shu-Chen Cuff.

The 2024 Innovation Award will be presented to We Rock Cancer.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of the 2024

Arts Awards and recognizing the visionaries, leaders, and supporters who help to make our Northern Virginia communities rich with cultural opportunities.

CELEBRATING JOSEPH DALLOS WITH THE BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR JOEY'S PLACE RESTAURANT BY THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE TONAWANDAS

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mr. Joseph Dallos, the owner of Joey's Place, as the Business of the Year recognized by the Chamber of Commerce of the Tonawandas.

Mr. Dallos' journey began in 1999 as owner and operator of Fortunata's Restaurant in the City of Buffalo. More recently, his culinary passion has transformed into Joey's Place, a restaurant that embodies his heart and soul. Joey's Place has truly evolved into an anchor for the City of Tonawanda business community—a beloved dining bar and meeting place where friends gather, families celebrate, and memories are made.

Together, with his children, Josh and Madison, Mr. Dallos continues to contribute to the community, making it a special and successful place to live, work, and play. His efforts remind us that a thriving business is not just about profit, but also about impact, connection, and commitment to the greater good.

Mr. Speaker, as we recognize Joseph Dallos and his exceptional work at Joey's Place today, let us celebrate a venue where connections are forged and partnerships are built. Let us recognize his entrepreneurial spirit and his heart for the community.

RECOGNIZING METRA COMMUTER RAILROAD'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the 40th anniversary of the Northeast Illinois Regional Commuter Rail Corporation, better known as Metra.

In 1984—during the first Board meeting of the newly formed Commuter Rail Division—Metra was adopted as a unifying name for all the disparate parts that make up the regional commuter rail system. Forty years later, Metra is the fourth-busiest commuter rail system in the country and the largest outside of the New York City area. By unifying the historic rail lines that make up today's system, Metra has established itself as a lifeline to residents of Chicagoland who depend on it to get to work, school, health and other critical appointments, gather with friends and family, and access the wide range of activities our great city has to offer.

Earlier this year, I was pleased to assist Metra in securing federal funding for its Edgebrook Station Renovation project. Renovations include updating digital signage and

upgrading to a larger shelter for its riders. I was also proud to secure funding for the Metra O'Hare Pedestrian Pathway Design Project, to investigate and outline significant steps toward making the O'Hare Transfer Station more comfortable and accessible. This will help to position Metra's North Central Service line as an alternative for getting to and from the airport.

As the Ranking Member of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Subcommittee, I would be remiss if I did not mention today's challenges facing the railroad. Capital funding has always fallen short of meeting the various needs tied to managing a legacy system. We must ensure funding levels meet the growing needs of our transit systems and fund improvements that will boost ridership and enhance efficiency.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments and service Metra has provided over the past 40 years. I would also like to thank Metra's CEO and Executive Director, Jim Derwinski, for his work and leadership during his tenure at Metra. I look forward to continuing to work with Metra to ensure a lifetime of safe and reliable commuter rail service in Chicagoland.

HONORING JON DUNN FOR HIS 31 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. KATIE PORTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the remarkable career of Jon Dunn, President and CEO of Planned Parenthood of Orange and San Bernardino Counties, who will be retiring in June 2025 after 31 years of dedicated service to our community.

Under his leadership, Planned Parenthood of Orange and San Bernardino Counties has expanded its services to provide comprehensive health care to more than 250,000 patients annually. Jon has guided the organization through times of great progress and immense challenges, always aiming to increase access to essential reproductive care regardless of one's income, background, or insurance status.

Jon's commitment to reproductive health has transformed health care in our communities. During his tenure, Planned Parenthood of Orange and San Bernardino Counties has expanded its reach by opening new health care facilities, increasing center operating hours, and launching innovative programs to address the needs of those who the organization serves. His bold vision for reproductive justice has significantly increased access to essential health care services for the people of Orange and San Bernardino Counties.

Jon has also been a key figure in the national conversation about reproductive rights, contributing his voice and expertise to major policy discussions. He has played a crucial role in supporting patients who are forced to travel to California for abortion services after the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*. His dedication to patient-centered care, advocacy for women's health, and fierce defense of reproductive rights has left a lasting legacy not just in Orange and San Bernardino Counties but across the United States.

I extend my deepest gratitude to Jon for his 31 years of service and leadership. His contributions have shaped the future of reproductive health in our community and strengthened the values of compassion, equity, and justice. I wish Jon all the best in his next chapter and thank him for his tireless work.

HONORING THE CAREER OF CHIEF MARIO KRSTIC

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Chief Mario Krstic for 37 years of fearless leadership and selfless service.

Despite being in law enforcement Mario Krstic's professional career actually began as an EMT with American Ambulance of Visalia. However, after losing a patient following a double homicide, Mario decided he wanted to take a more proactive approach to prevent others from experiencing the same. By 1986, Mr. Krstic was hired by the Tulare County Sheriff's Department as a correction deputy.

It wasn't until 1997 that Mario made his transition to Farmersville when he took on a patrol position for the city. To his delight, a high turnover rate the following year left him as one of the most experienced officers in the force resulting in a promotion to Lieutenant, and another to Police Chief on July 17, 1999.

When Chief Krstic first took the reins, Farmersville had a population of 6,500 and a police force that lacked stability. Without hesitation, Mario implemented his own community-oriented policing model with a focus on not only policing residents but serving them as well.

He carried this out by recruiting officers who were bilingual and better able to communicate with the predominantly Hispanic communities and reassure the residents that the department works for them. He also took great pride in that half of his officers were directly from Farmersville which allowed him to stabilize the departments top-end turnover and expand the force from 12 full-time officers to 16. He was the epitome of public safety, as one of the first chiefs in Tulare County to be a proponent of body cams in an effort to better protect the public and his officers. Additionally, he was successful in convincing the city council to hire a fire chief and even helped them find funding for one which is just now being realized as the Farmersville City Council took its first steps towards building a new fire station just recently.

Chief Mario Krstic consistently went above his call of duty as the Police Chief and even took on different positions to better serve the people of Farmersville. Throughout his 37 years in law enforcement and 24 years as the Chief of Police for the City of Farmersville, Mario Krstic has managed Police, Fire, and Code Enforcement. He has also served as Interim City Manager of Farmersville for over three years, sat as the Region 11 chair on the Board of Directors of the California Police Chiefs Association for 9 years, and is a two-time past President of the Tulare County Chiefs Association. In addition to this, Chief Krstic has sat on the Advisory Board of the Tulare Kings Police Academy and was an instructor with the Academy for over 14 years.

Chief Krstic is also an alumnus of the Sequoia Regional Leadership Program, IACP's Leadership in Police Organizations program, and holds a bachelor's degree in Administration of Justice from Chapman University.

As the longest actively serving Chief of Police in the State of California, Chief Mario Krstic is invaluable to the City of Farmersville. He will enjoy his retirement in the company of his wife, Trish; their two children, Jacob and Amanda; and their two grandchildren, Gwen and Willow.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the devoted career of Police Chief Mario Krstic for his commitment to protecting and serving the community. May we be inspired by his story.

RECOGNIZING THE GRADUATES OF THE 162ND FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT RECRUIT CLASS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department and the graduates of the 162nd Class. As they prepare to join the ranks of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, I encourage the 33 graduates to reflect on the history of the department and the contributions and dedication of the brave men and women who have served before them to protect our community.

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department's Recruit School consists of an extensive and demanding 24-week program. In addition to two weeks of orientation, recruits completed nine weeks of EMT training and eleven weeks of fire suppression training. Upon graduation, these recruits will be certified at the level of Firefighter I/II by the Virginia Department of Fire Programs.

These recruits have the distinct honor of joining one of the best Fire and Rescue Departments in the United States. The efforts of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department have been recognized across this country. Members from the Department serve on the elite VA Task Force 1, which is among the first units called to disaster zones to provide search and rescue support. Members of that Task Force were recognized by the International Association of Fire Chiefs with the Benjamin Franklin Award for Valor as a result of their efforts in the aftermath of the devastating earthquakes that struck Nepal in 2015.

Fairfax County is fortunate to have such excellent ambassadors for our community and I commend them for all that they have done to protect lives and property not only here in Fairfax County, but around the world. As the newest members of the Fire and Rescue Department, the 162nd Recruit Class graduates join the department as integral parts of our community's emergency response and public safety team. I am confident that this graduating class will serve the residents of Fairfax County with honor and distinction. It is my great honor to include in the RECORD the names of the 162nd Recruit Class:

Oscar A. Arias, James M. Pack, Andy G. Avila, Luke W. Pavlovich, Matthew W. Barker,