

HONORING JOHNNY WHITE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Johnny White, who was named the 2024 Agriculturist of the Year by the Napa County Farm Bureau. Mr. White is being recognized for his years of dedicated service and contributions to Napa County's agricultural community.

Mr. White's experience with farming began at a young age on a ranch in Chiles Valley where his family grew hay and raised cattle and sheep. Taking after his great-grandfather John Wooden, for whom Wooden's Valley in Napa County is named after, Mr. White has continued a legacy of earnest work as a fifth-generation farmer. Mr. White graduated from St. Helena High School and continued his education at Santa Rosa Junior College, ultimately discovering a passion for viticulture in the heart of wine country.

For 37 years, Mr. White has worked at Pina Vineyard Management, where he now acts as both Partner and President. Mr. White manages over 1,000 acres of vineyard and assists growers with another 1,000 acres for removal and preparation of vines every year.

In addition to his work in our wine community, Mr. White has served as a volunteer firefighter with the Pope Valley Fire Department and St. Helena Fire Department, where he retired as the Assistant Fire Chief after 25 years of service. In this capacity, Mr. White, alongside other brave individuals, aided in protecting land from the 2020 Lightning Complex fires in Pope Valley, creating protective rings around property lines with bulldozers to prevent the fire from progressing.

Over the years, Mr. White has dedicated countless hours to educating and supporting his hometown's youth in agriculture. Regularly aiding St. Helena High's FFA in agricultural education and working directly with the vine pruning team, Johnny has been a council member on the school's Ag Boosters and Ag Advisory boards.

Mr. Speaker, through decades of work as a leading figure in our agriculture community, educator for our youth, husband, father and friend, Johnny White has greatly improved life in our county and is highly deserving of the honor as Agriculturist of the Year from the Napa County Farm Bureau. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF CARMEN ANTHONY EANNI**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 1, 2024

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the legacy of Carmen Anthony Eanni, an extraordinary father, husband, attorney, and advocate.

Born on July 16, 1934, in Dover, New Jersey, Carmen was the sixth of seven children of Italian immigrants Serafino and Josephina Eanni. At the age of 12, he and his family moved from New Jersey to California, joining

relatives in the Hanford area to take advantage of the Golden State's ideal climate.

Carmen graduated from Hanford High in 1952 and went on to play fullback for Fresno City College. It was there that he met the love of his life, Rose Marie. After a three-year engagement, they married in Fresno in 1957 following his service in the 82nd Airborne Division and 77th Special Forces Group as a Green Beret during the Korean war.

He continued his education at San Francisco State University, earning a bachelor's degree in political science, and later obtained his juris doctorate from UC Hastings College of Law in 1963. After law school, Carmen returned to Fresno, working for 18 months as a Deputy District Attorney before entering private practice in 1966. Two years later, he became a shareholder at the Fresno law firm Miles, Sears & Eanni, APC.

For 54 years, Carmen dedicated himself to trial law, specializing in personal injury, product liability, and professional negligence. He was a member of the California State Bar, served on the Disciplinary Review Department of the State Bar Court from 1979 to 1984, and was active in the Fresno County Bar Association, California Trial Lawyers Association (serving as President of the Fresno Chapter from 1969 to 1971 and as Chairman of the Recognition of Experience Committee from 1979 to 1980), and the American Bar Association.

In 1968, Carmen was instrumental in founding what would become Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central California, an organization that has positively impacted the lives of over 30,000 children across Fresno, Madera, Kings, and Tulare Counties. He also coached for the San Joaquin Memorial Catholic Youth Football Program, dedicating countless hours to mentoring young athletes and teaching them valuable life skills.

Carmen enjoyed golfing, exercising, cheering for Fresno State football, and tailgating with family and friends. Known for his vibrant sense of humor, he brought joy to those around him. He deeply cherished his faith community, lifelong friendships, family gatherings, and the delicious homemade Italian meals prepared by Rose Marie.

He is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Rose Marie; daughter Nikki Helmer and her husband Jay; son John Eanni and his wife Kellie; grandsons Jonathan and Dylan Eanni; sister Anna Batti; in-laws; nieces; nephews; and many dear friends. He was preceded in death by his parents and siblings: sisters Jennie Champi, Teresa Batti, and Mary Eanni, and brothers Alfonso and Joseph Eanni.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in honoring the legacy of Carmen Anthony Eanni. Carmen will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE ANAHEIM HALLOWEEN PARADE**HON. J. LUIS CORREA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 1, 2024

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Anaheim Halloween Parade, a beloved Orange County tradition.

This tradition predates the rise trick-or-treating as a Halloween staple. It was started by the local merchants' association to engage nearby children and families for some wholesome fun. For the very first parade, over 20,000 residents and neighbors from nearby towns lined the streets on October 31st, 1924, to watch the 45-minute nighttime Halloween Parade led by Grand Marshals and baseball superstars Babe Ruth and Walter Johnson.

Anaheim's Halloween Parade would quickly become one of the biggest seasonal celebrations in the Nation, attracting crowds of over 75,000 attendees. In the 1960s and 1970s, the parade was broadcast on live television to be shared around the Nation. As an Anaheim kid, I had the opportunity to participate in the parade with my Benjamin Franklin Elementary classmates. And even as Anaheim grew from a rural town full of orange groves into a popular tourist destination and one of the largest cities in Orange County, the annual Halloween traditions did not disappear.

In 2012—and because of the hard work and dedication of the volunteers, local businesses, and community members—the Anaheim Halloween Parade and Fall Festival were revitalized. To honor the tradition's long history, several beloved floats from previous decades were brought back to life, including the 1953 Flying Sasser and the 1951 Rocket Witch.

Today, the parade still highlights the fall season and Halloween—but it has also grown to reflect our evolving local community. The celebration now also recognizes Dia de los Muertos, an important Chicano celebration that has strong roots in Anaheim's neighborhoods.

I ask my colleagues to join my hometown community in celebrating a century of one of Orange County's most important traditions. The Anaheim Halloween Parade has brought families out to celebrate for the past 100 years—and I am sure that it will continue to bring our community together for 100 more.

RECOGNIZING THE COURAGEOUS
SERVICE OF DEPUTY GREGORY
MAY**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 1, 2024

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the courageous service of Craig County Sheriff's Deputy Gregory May.

In September of 2024, Hurricane Helene ravaged much of Virginia's Ninth Congressional District. Craig County was one of many counties under severe distress from conditions created by Helene.

On September 27, Deputy May was called into action to respond to an emergency situation involving an injured person in the Sinking Creek area of Craig County. Despite facing heavy rains and high winds, Deputy May, along with Craig County Emergency Services and Fire Department personnel, attempted to execute a daring rescue mission.

While assisting in the rescue operation, Deputy May was struck by flying debris. This incident inflicted serious bodily injury, requiring him to receive immediate medical attention and care. He sustained a concussion, a broken jaw, and a severe laceration under his neck.

This emergency situation called for bravery and sacrifice. Deputy May answered that call in the face of this unprecedented hurricane, knowing full well that his life would be endangered.

Deputy May's outstanding service to the Craig County Sheriff's Office and the people of Craig County is commended by the Craig County Board of Supervisors, who value the "indispensable role of all law enforcement officers, firefighters, rescue squads, and medical responders" to protect their community.

Craig County first responders have a dedicated serviceman among their ranks. Deputy May's story is a model of sacrifice and service that inspires his colleagues and community.

As a locality of roughly 5,000 people in a mountainous area of Virginia, Craig County residents can be assured that their security and well-being are considered essential, thanks to first responders like Deputy May.

RECOGNIZING PA-1'S HOMETOWN
HERO: LAYLA PECK

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 1, 2024

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary individual from Pennsylvania's First Congressional District—someone who has gone above and beyond the call of duty in service to both our community and our country. It is with great respect and admiration, I recognize Layla Peck, one of our district's distinguished Hometown Heroes.

Hometown Heroes are not defined by titles or accolades but by the quiet power of their actions. They are distinguished by their unwavering integrity, the strength of their character, and their steadfast commitment to the people and places they serve. They are the foundation upon which our communities stand—the ones who lift others up, inspire hope, and, in doing so, call us all to higher standards of service and compassion. Layla has embodied this spirit in ways that words can scarcely capture.

As a first grader at St. Andrews Catholic Elementary School, after listening to the Monsignor from her Parish discuss the importance and impact of doing good deeds for others, Layla embarked on a mission to find the perfect gesture to honor her friend, World War II Navy Veteran Joseph Gagliardi. Layla enlisted the help of her teacher and classmates to make 100 handmade birthday cards and coordinated with the Newtown Township Police Department, Newtown Fire and Rescue, and Newtown Ambulance Squad to celebrate Joe's 100th birthday with a surprise parade. Despite her young age, Layla's call to service has strengthened the fabric of our district and proves that when driven by purpose, compassion, and a resolute sense of duty, one individual can leave a lasting and profound impact on an entire community.

In times of uncertainty, it is the work of individuals like Layla that reminds us of the strength of the human spirit. Her service, given without expectation of recognition, stands as a testament to the belief that one individual's dedication can ripple through the lives of many, sparking change, fostering resilience, and inspiring hope. Today, we honor

Layla not just for her remarkable deeds but for who she is—a true hero in every sense of the word.

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

HONORING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF FRESNO INTERDENOMINATIONAL REFUGEE MINISTRIES

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 1, 2024

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Fresno Interdenominational Refugee Ministries (FIRM) for its 30 years of impeccable service to the communities in search of safety and opportunity.

FIRM is a faith-based, nonprofit organization located in the Central Valley, dedicated to serving refugees and individuals seeking a fresh start and new opportunities.

Since its establishment in January 1994 through collaborations with various congregations, FIRM has assisted over 10,000 people from Southeast Asia, Africa, South America, and more than 22 other countries. Their involvement with Church World Service and commitment to refugee assistance began years before their official founding.

Today, FIRM supports over 60,000 residents in Fresno County, focusing on meeting their needs with a range of comprehensive programs in health, education, community building, and youth outreach. These initiatives provide essential resources and drive positive change, benefiting the community and future generations.

FIRM's exceptional service has been recognized with numerous awards, including the 'Outstanding Performance in Community Economic Development and Revitalization,' 'Outstanding Service and Leadership in the Community,' the 'Martin Luther King Community Service Award,' and the 'Vocational Excellence Award,' among other prestigious honors. Their impactful work continues to be supported and valued by the local community.

As we celebrate FIRM's 30th anniversary, I commend their leadership, dedication to the valley, and their role as a vital resource for those striving for a better future.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in honoring the Fresno Interdenominational Refugee Ministries. Let us celebrate their legacy and their ongoing commitment to prioritizing the valley's refugees and providing them a safeguard in which they all call "home."

RECOGNIZING THE 101ST ANNIVERSARY OF TURKISH REPUBLIC DAY AND THE TURKISH AMERICAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 1, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 101st Anniversary of Turkish Republic Day and the contributions of the Turkish American Cultural Association of Michigan (TACAM) in strengthening the relationship between Türkiye and the United States. Their steadfast commitment to the improvement of the humanitarian and cultural welfare of the Turkish community both locally and internationally is worthy of commendation.

The founding of the Turkish Republic on October 29, 1923, symbolizes the immense resilience and determination of the Turkish people. Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and his beliefs in the importance of culture and humanity through the establishment of a progressive, democratic state are representative of the core values of modern-day Türkiye. On this 101st Anniversary of Türkiye Republic Day, we celebrate the continued peace and security of the region and the unified ties between Türkiye and the United States.

Since 1972, the Turkish American Cultural Association of Michigan has been dedicated to upholding the values of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk in their work for Turkish-American communities. They have been a strong voice for the Turkish people, fostering and executing programs that have advanced economic, social, educational, and general welfare for Turkish communities. The leadership they have brought to the state of Michigan, especially its 6th Congressional District, has enriched our communities with Turkish culture, making Michigan a more inclusive and thriving state.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the 101st Anniversary of Turkish Republic Day and the contributions of the Turkish American Cultural Association of Michigan in Turkish-American communities. The strong ties between Türkiye and the United States are made possible by the remarkable work of Turkish-American organizations like TACAM and Michigan is proud to be a beneficiary of their efforts. I am excited to see the continued accomplishments of TACAM and Turkish-Americans in Michigan and abroad.

AUSTIN COLLINS' OUTSTANDING
HIGH SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT

HON. GREG LOPEZ

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 1, 2024

Mr. LOPEZ. Mr. Speaker, Colorado student Austin Collins from Wray, Colorado is a testament and great example of what driven, community focused students can offer this country. His achievement throughout his high school career in sports, academia, and extra-curricular activities have benefited not only him, but his entire community.

Austin has served in Wray High School's National Honor Society and Student Government, working alongside his peers to create a