

As a young man, LTC Nelson was inspired to serve our country and the Lord, and he joined the Army in 1995. He served as a Chaplain during the Global War on Terror and oversaw other Chaplains to ensure all soldiers' spiritual needs were met. For his outstanding service, LTC Nelson received the Legion of Merit, the Southwest Asia Service Medal with three bronze stars, the Army Commendation Medal, and many more awards.

After retiring from the Army in 2008, LTC Nelson has continued to be an active member of our community. He has presided over events as a chaplain for the Frisco Gold Star Family Monument and served as a member of the Frisco Veteran Advisory Council. LTC Nelson also serves on Frisco Lakes Veterans' leadership team to assist homeless veterans and provide scholarships for students throughout North Texas. Over the past four years, he has managed a food bank in Little Elm to help feed families in need. I am proud of LTC Nelson's contributions to our community and his dedication to serving our great Nation.

I am honored to represent LTC Nelson in Texas' 4th Congressional district. It is a pleasure to award him the Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to our Nation and the people of North Texas.

HONORING LOVE'S SEAFOOD & STEAKS

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2024

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Love's Seafood & Steaks in Savannah, Georgia, as it celebrates its 75th anniversary.

Since 1949, this family-owned establishment has been a cornerstone of our community, offering exceptional coastal cuisine and Southern hospitality.

Under the dedicated leadership of Donna Love and her husband, Fulton, Love's Seafood has thrived, becoming a cherished gathering place for residents and visitors alike.

Their commitment to quality and tradition has made Love's a beloved institution that is sure to deliver the very heart and soul of Savannah to anyone who steps into its doors.

I congratulate Donna, Fulton, and the entire Love family on 75 remarkable years, and may their legacy continue to flourish for generations to come.

CELEBRATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2024

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 10th anniversary of National Apprenticeship Week and celebrate the Workforce Innovation Network Consortium. This week is an opportunity to honor the incredible apprentices, graduates, employers, and workforce partners that make the American workforce the greatest and most skilled in the world.

In my home state of Illinois, there are over 400 Registered Apprentice programs and over 21,000 registered apprentices. I am proud of these members of our community and thankful for the opportunity they have available to them through Registered Apprentice programs.

As the Representative of Illinois's 1st Congressional District, I am proud to lend my voice and support to these life changing programs and to raise awareness throughout National Apprenticeship Week.

National Apprenticeship Week was established by the U.S. Department of Labor to showcase and promote high quality, inclusive, and in demand career pathway opportunities through Registered Apprentice programs.

This nationwide celebration allows employers, apprentices, graduates, workforce partners, educational institutions, and Federal, State, and Local governments to showcase the success and value of Registered Apprenticeships. These opportunities strengthen our economy, create pathways for career seekers to land good jobs while advancing racial equity.

Apprenticeships play a vital role in developing our workforce and creating opportunities for Americans from every walk of life. Over the last 10 years, apprentices and graduates of apprentice programs have played a key role in modernizing our country's infrastructure, building clean energy technology, and addressing cybersecurity threats. Their skills and expertise continue to move our country forward and they rise to meet the needs of our growing and evolving national needs.

As we look to the next 10 years of apprentice programs and beyond, we should continue to provide the support necessary to continue providing these vital opportunities.

As the American economy continues to be the envy of the world, Apprentice programs will continue preparing the next generation of American workers to face the challenges of tomorrow. This week is a reminder that there is no task too large that we cannot accomplish through diligence and hard work. I am proud to support Registered Apprentice programs that prepare our workforce to face these challenges together while building solidarity and unity among people of all backgrounds.

I ask that my colleagues join me in providing this support and recognizing and thanking all apprentices, graduates, and workforce partners who continue to move our country forward.

CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION FOR PRESTON RICH

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Staff Sergeant Preston Bernard Rich of Frisco, Texas, and award him a Congressional Veteran Commendation. SSgt Rich honorably served in the United States Air Force during the Gulf War.

SSgt Rich joined the Air Force in July 1986, where he was responsible for conducting Personnel Management during Operation Desert Storm and Operation Desert Shield. For his meritorious service, he received the Air Force Longevity Award with one device, the South-

west Asia Service Medal with one device, the Air Force Overseas Long Tour Ribbon with one device, and many more awards.

After retiring from the Air Force in 1997, SSgt Rich has continued to make a positive impact in our community. Since 2013, he has served as Quartermaster for Frisco Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8273. In this role, he leads efforts to improve veteran outreach and support veterans no matter where they are located. SSgt Rich has gone above and beyond his duties to ensure that no veteran is left behind during their time of need. He is also a devoted father and outstanding educator and speaker on the topic of cybersecurity. His outstanding leadership and guidance has helped many veterans, students, and peers improve their lives and reach their full potential. I am proud of SSgt Rich's contributions to our community and his dedication to serving our great Nation.

I am honored to represent SSgt Rich in Texas' 4th Congressional district. It is a pleasure to award him the Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to our Nation and the people of North Texas.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM DANIELS

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2024

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in proud recognition, of William Daniels, a graduate of Operation Recognition Class of 2024. Operation Recognition is a program organized by the Riverside County Office of Education and the Riverside County Department of Veterans' Services, that presents diplomas to residents of Riverside County who were unable to complete high school due to military service in World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, or due to internment in World War II Japanese-American relocation camps. Operation Recognition provides a way to express our appreciation and gratitude for the significant contributions and sacrifices made by our veterans.

William Daniels was born on September 18, 1935. Shortly after he was born, William Daniels' brother and mother passed away and he was raised by his grandmother in Long Island, New York. In 1952, at the age of 17, Mr. Daniels decided he would find a way to join the U.S. Army and follow in the footsteps of the father. His father, whom he never met, served during World War II as part of the first Black parachute infantry battalion, the historic "Triple Nickel" 555th Parachute Infantry Company of the United States Army. After Daniels joined the Army, he was deployed, to fight in the Korean War and jumped out of planes as part of the 187th Regimental Combat Team in the 11th Airborne Division. He served as a medic and surgical technician, among multiple roles that included the motor pool and multiple military occupational specialties. He received the Purple Heart for injuries received while in combat. After the war, Daniels earned his GED and continued his service to veterans in his role with Kaiser Permanente—which included providing home health care to veterans. As recently as 1998, he was still known to jump out of planes as a skydiver. Mr. Daniels is 89 years old and has been married to

his wife, Sylvia, for 31 years. They currently reside in the community of Lake Elsinore.

On behalf of all Riverside County residents and a grateful Nation, I want to thank Mr. Daniels for his service to our country and congratulate him on being part of the Operation Recognition Class of 2024.

HONORING MASTER SERGEANT
BRIAN S. GENIER

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2024

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Master Sergeant Brian S. Genier for his exemplary military service and subsequent community service to veterans in New York's 21st Congressional District.

Master Sergeant Genier was born on August 26, 1961, in Mineville, New York. At 19 years old, Brian enlisted in the United States Air Force and served admirably until his retirement in 2000. During his time in the Air Force, Master Sergeant Genier was a member of the 89th Security Squadron and deployed to Panama in support of Operation Just Cause. Following his service in Panama, Brian was stationed at Andrews Air Force Base where he continued to serve his fellow Americans. Master Sergeant Genier was honorably discharged from the Air Force after completing twenty years of honorable service.

Throughout his years of service, Brian earned numerous medals including the Joint Service Achievement Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal with 5 devices, Air Force Commendation Medal with 1 device, Meritorious Service Medal with 2 devices, Air Force Longevity Service Award with 3 devices, Air Force Training Ribbon, Air Force Overseas Long Tour Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon with device, Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Military Education Ribbon with 1 device, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with 4 devices, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with 5 devices, and the Short Tour Overseas Ribbon.

After retiring from the Air Force, Master Sergeant Genier retired in Chazy, New York. Today, he serves his community as a member of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association providing complimentary motorcycle escorts for local North Country Honor Flights dedicated to World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War and Cold War veterans.

Master Sergeant Genier has also been a member of the American Legion Post 912 in Rouses Point, New York, for the past 18 years. He participates in fundraising, membership drives, and activities which honor and support North Country veterans including the annual Wreaths Across America Ceremony each December.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I am honored to recognize the incredible service and commitment to community of Master Sergeant Brian S. Genier.

HONORING ANNIE R. NEASMAN

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2024

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the remarkable career and contributions of Annie Ruth Miles Neasman, MS, RN, upon her retirement from more than five decades of dedicated service in the healthcare industry.

Throughout her illustrious career, Annie R. Neasman has exemplified unwavering commitment and leadership in healthcare, touching the lives of countless individuals in Miami-Dade County and beyond. In 2004, she took the reins as the President and CEO of the Jessie Trice Community Health System, Inc. (JTCHS), and for the following 20 years she led the successful operation of eleven comprehensive community sites, a women's residential substance abuse treatment facility, and numerous school-based health facilities.

Since its establishment in 1967, JTCHS has been a beacon of healthcare excellence in Miami-Dade County, recognized as Florida's first Federally Qualified Health Center and the fifth in the Nation. Governed by a deeply committed Board of Directors, with over half benefitting from its services, and supported by a diverse and talented team, JTCHS embodies steadfast dedication to community well-being and healthcare equity.

Ms. Neasman's journey in healthcare leadership extends far beyond JTCHS. Her tenure as Deputy Secretary of Health and Chief Public Health Nurse at the Florida Department of Health showcased her exceptional leadership acumen and dedication to public health initiatives. During pivotal moments such as Hurricane Andrew and the aftermath of 9/11, her steadfast leadership played a crucial role in the state's response efforts, ensuring the safety and well-being of countless individuals.

Annie Neasman's influence extends beyond her professional roles. She has been a tireless advocate for health equity, addressing the social determinants of health and championing healthcare as a fundamental right for all. Her commitment to fostering partnerships and collaboration with community organizations has been instrumental in advancing public health initiatives and improving access to quality healthcare services.

Throughout her career, Ms. Neasman has been a trailblazer and a mentor, inspiring and guiding countless healthcare professionals. Her impact has been recognized through numerous awards and accolades, including the National Association of Community Health Centers Grassroots Advocacy Hall of Fame Award and the Miami Chapter Black Nurses Association Lifetime Achievement Award, among many others.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognition of Ms. Annie Neasman and her outstanding contributions to healthcare and her unwavering commitment to the well-being of communities. As Ms. Neasman embarks on the next chapter of her journey, her legacy of compassion, dedication, and leadership will continue to inspire us all. We extend our deepest gratitude for her exemplary service and wish her a fulfilling and joyous retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF OMAR
GALLARDO

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2024

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Congressman MIKE THOMPSON to honor Omar Gallardo who passed away on October 23, 2024. Omar was a lifelong community activist, organizer, and leader in outdoor education in Sonoma County.

Born in 1975 in Michoacan, Mexico, Omar's early years were spent in Sonoma County, California and Mexico. He attended Geyserville High School, where bilingual staff and educators encouraged his interest in his Chicano culture, including his participation in Ballet Folklórico.

From a young age, Omar was an active community organizer. He offered translation services with the United Farmworkers Union and led a trip to Delano, California in 1993 for a widely attended memorial march honoring leader Cesar Chavez. In 1994, he organized student marches protesting California's Proposition 187, an initiative to prohibit undocumented immigrants from accessing important benefits. Omar also participated in high school programs offered by Santa Rosa Junior College and Sonoma State University designed to mentor Latino students. He later attended both institutions and earned a bachelor's degree in history.

Following college, Omar joined California Mini-Corps as a teacher and spent eight years working with immigrant students in outdoor education. He then spent four years working as a student counselor in Santa Cruz County before returning to Sonoma County to be a site coordinator for the Graton Day Labor Center. In 2012, he was recruited to LandPaths: a Sonoma-based environmental education and conservation organization.

Omar became an integral pillar of the LandPaths leadership team, guiding the organization's approach to community outreach and engagement. He helped predominantly Spanish-speaking youth access Sonoma open spaces and inspired the next generation of environmental stewards through outdoor programs. Omar's efforts were also critical in the development of Santa Rosa's Bayer Farm, a six acre urban farm that is the product of collaboration between LandPaths and the city. He was known for his gentle heart, treating others with dignity, and credited for expanding LandPaths' reach and impact. In 2015, Omar was aptly honored by the Sonoma County Economic Development Board with a Spirit of Sonoma Award.

Omar was also a dedicated Aztec dancer and established his own group, Danza Azteca Xántotl de Santa Rosa, which performed at local events.

Mr. Speaker, Omar Gallardo was a tireless community advocate and champion of environmental stewardship whose life ended too soon. He is survived by his wife Norma Lazaro Hernandez; his two young sons Tandeé, age 13, and Erandi, age eight; his mother Maria Luisa Gallardo; and his sisters Marilu Gallardo, Olga Gallardo, Blanca Gallardo, and Merlinda Gallardo. His enduring legacy in Sonoma County and with future generations cannot be understated. We respectfully ask