

call to service and sacrifice made a lasting impact on multiple generations.

McNitzky was raised in Denton, Texas and answered the Nation's call to service, enlisting in the U.S. Army on June 30, 1917. He was listed as a Private in Company M, 142nd Infantry Regiment, 36th Division, U.S. Army. After enlisting, McNitzky was sent for training to Camp Bowie in Fort Worth.

McNitzky was killed in action during the Battle of Argonne Forest in St. Etienne, France. The Battle of the Argonne Forest, also known as the Meuse-Argonne Offensive, is recognized as a major part of the final Allied offensive of World War I. The Battle of Argonne Forest was hard fought over an agonizing 47 days, from September 26, 1918 until November 11, 1918.

For his valiant service in action, Sergeant McNitzky was awarded the Croix de Guerre by the French government. His mother, Emma McNitzky, and her daughter, Rosa, traveled to France to claim Arthur's body and bring his remains home. He was buried beside his father, August McNitzky, and shares a headstone with him in the McNitzky family plot in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Denton, Texas.

Sergeant McNitzky's selfless sacrifice is to be respectfully reflected upon and remembered more than one hundred years later. We are forever grateful to the many men and women who have served and continue to serve in our nation's armed forces.

On Veterans Day 2024, Judge Forrest C. Beadle, Denton County Criminal Court No. 3, and Commander of American Legion Post 71, presented me with a United States flag that had been planted at Sergeant McNitzky's gravesite. The label reads "SGT Arthur O. McNitzky The American Legion, Post 71 Denton, Texas Remembrance Day October 8, 1918–October 8, 2018". STILL SERVING. It is my honor to recognize Sergeant McNitzky's sacrifice and the continuing service of Denton's Post 71, in honor of Sergeant McNitzky, with donation of this special American flag to the Denton County Office of History and Culture.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, on November 18, 2024, I was not recorded on Roll Call vote No. 466.

Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on Roll Call vote No. 466.

RECOGNIZING THE ASSOCIATED BUILDERS & CONTRACTORS FLORIDA EAST COAST AND THE ASSOCIATED BUILDERS & CONTRACTORS INSTITUTE (ABCI) DURING NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Associated Builders & Con-

tractors Florida East Coast and the Associated Builders & Contractors Institute (ABCI), which are both based in my District and provide not only my constituents but all of South Florida, the Treasure Coast, and some of the Space Coast with construction workforce. This week is National Apprenticeship Week, and recently, I had the opportunity to visit ABC Florida East Coast and ABCI to see first-hand the apprenticeship education program provided to my constituents in seven high-demand fields in construction.

ABCI is Florida's single largest apprenticeship provider out of hundreds of apprenticeship programs. More than 800 students are enrolled at ABCI, benefiting from state laws that keep education tuition-free and guarantee progressive wages. ABCI provides robust job placement services, helping students secure employment before completion and during their education journeys.

ABCI programs are accredited by the National Center for Construction Education and Research, ensuring apprentices graduate with credentials recognized nationwide. Today in South Florida, there is much growth in population and commercial construction; the industry-driven curriculum is critical and is designed in collaboration with top industry leaders, so therefore, ABCI's programs meet the ever-evolving needs of the construction sector, producing highly skilled, growth-ready graduates.

As we commemorate National Apprenticeship Week, I'd like to once again recognize the Associated Builders & Contractors and ABCI for the positive impact apprentices have on the South Florida and American economies. ABCI's role in preparing the next generation of skilled workers is a testament to that success.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY TECH AP U.S. GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to address the next generation of American leaders from the AP United States Government and Politics class at Cumberland County Tech. Today, I stand before them as their Representative in the United States Congress, and I want to thank them for their decision to take a college-level course that deepens their understanding of American government and politics. Learning civics is an important step toward becoming informed citizens and future leaders of our nation. It is essential for people to understand how laws are made, to participate in the political process, and to know their rights in order to make a positive impact on their community and country. The House of Representatives, where I serve, is one of the two chambers of Congress that form the federal government's legislative branch. This branch plays a crucial role in creating laws, declaring war, and overseeing the Executive Branch. By understanding how this process works, they enhance their ability to become our country's next leaders and to make meaningful contributions as outstanding Americans. I thank them for taking this important first step toward making a significant difference. God bless Cumberland County Tech, and God bless our United States of America.

WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP DAY 2024

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 11th Anniversary of Women's Entrepreneurship Day, celebrated globally on November 19.

In the United States alone, over 12 million of our nation's 33.1 million small businesses are owned by women, employing around 10.7 million workers and contributing an astounding \$2.1 trillion in revenue. These women-led businesses are a cornerstone of our economy, and I extend my deepest commendation to the women behind them.

Today, I celebrate the Women's Entrepreneurship Day movement, founded by Wendy Diamond. Eleven years ago, Wendy launched the Women's Entrepreneurship Day Organization (WEDO) with an unyielding commitment to elevate and empower women in entrepreneurship—at a time when their vital role in the global economy was still underappreciated. Since its inception, WEDO has led transformative initiatives, including providing microloans to over 20,000 women in need, launching the WEDO Entrepreneurial Arts Education Program for disadvantaged female students, and sponsoring those students to attend the United Nations. WEDO has also been instrumental in supporting the Restart Academy, which serves students ages 13 to 21 in transitional environments, and leading the "Women's Disability Startup Cohort," the first Accelerator Program for disabled women in business—supported by Google for Startups. This past year, WEDO launched a groundbreaking AI education program with world-renowned experts, aimed at empowering 1 million disadvantaged women entrepreneurs with cutting-edge skills. To date, 55,322 women have already enrolled in this transformative program.

WEDO has also partnered with Defy Ventures to drive the Entrepreneurs in Training (EIT) program, achieving an outstanding 84 percent success rate among formerly incarcerated women by providing them with a path to opportunity and reintegration. Over the past decade, WEDO has ignited a global movement with over 300 ambassadors across 144 countries, impacting 112 international universities and colleges.

In recognition of this extraordinary milestone, the Women's Entrepreneurship Day Organization Pioneer Awards honor exceptional women leaders who have pioneered new frontiers across various fields. This year's honorees include Reta Jo Lewis, President and Chair of the Export-Import Bank of the United States; Marilyn Simons, Co-Founder and Board Chair of the Simons Foundation; Suneera Madhani, Founder & CEO of Worth AI and CEO School, and Founder of Stax Payments; Tina Nova, Co-Founder of Genoptix Medical Laboratory; Angeline Mikiri, Founder of Rock Solid Trust and Shekinah Media; María del Rosario Velasco Lino, Founder & General Director of the Sanctuary of the Queen Bee; Tanis Jorge, Founder of the Cofounder's Hub and Co-Founder of Trulioo.com; and Helena Christensen, supermodel, former Victoria's Secret Angel,

UNHCR Global Ambassador, and original Creative Director of Nylon magazine.

As we celebrate this profound milestone, let us be resolute in our commitment to providing the essential tools and programs needed for young women to not only survive but to truly flourish in the dynamic world of entrepreneurship.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEAN PHILLIPS

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I inadvertently voted NAY on Roll Call No. 458. I intended to vote YEA. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 458.

CONGRATULATING IAN NOEL
MERRIMAN AND JEREMY PAUL
YOAKAM FOR EARNING THE
RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. RYAN K. ZINKE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

Mr. ZINKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor two exceptional young men from Livingston, Montana, Ian Noel Merriman and Jeremy Paul Yoakam, for their remarkable achievements and dedication to the principles of Scouting. Their commitment to service, leadership, and community exemplifies the values that Scouting instills in young men.

Growing up in Whitefish, Montana, the outdoor and survival skills that I learned, as well as the friends I made as a Boy Scout have stayed with me to this day. The Eagle Scout Oath to do my best to God, to my country, and to scout law is something that set me on the right track to serve my country as a SEAL and as Member of Congress. These two young men have lived up to that oath and deserve the honor and recognition that comes with the Eagle Scout title.

Ian, a senior at Park High School, began his Scouting journey in the Cub Scouts in 2013. He achieved the rank of Webelo Scout and earned the Arrow of Light, the highest rank in Cub Scouting, in 2018. Transitioning to Boy Scouts in May 2018, Ian has consistently demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedication.

Ian has participated in numerous community service projects, including annual "Scouting for Food" drives, Yellowstone River Cleanups, and serving veterans at the American Legion Post No. 23 Veterans Day dinner. His involvement in activities such as erecting and taking down flags in Sacajawea Park and local cemeteries on significant patriotic holidays underscores his commitment to community service.

For his Eagle Scout Project, Ian raised funds to purchase and install two bicycle repair stations on local bike trails, benefiting the Livingston Bicycle Club and the community. Ian's perseverance, positive attitude, and compassion for younger Scouts are truly inspiring.

Jeremy Paul Yoakam, a senior who splits his education between homeschooling and the

Learning Bench Academy, also embarked on his Scouting journey in 2013. Achieving the Arrow of Light in 2018, Jeremy joined Boy Scouts in May 2018 and has since been an active and influential member of his troop. His service projects display dedication to community improvement, including food drives, river clean-ups, and veterans' support.

Jeremy's Eagle Scout Project involved building two flag collection boxes for the community to appropriately dispose of worn flags. This project honors the American flag and those who have served, and it highlights Jeremy's innovative thinking and commitment to service.

To go along with his excellent academic achievement, Jeremy balances his Scouting activities with a rich array of extracurricular pursuits, including church youth group, jiu-jitsu, backpacking, hunting, fly-fishing, and shooting sports. His work at Woodland Ridge Tiny Home Crafters speaks to his industrious nature and varied interests.

Mr. Speaker, the dedication and achievements of Ian Noel Merriman and Jeremy Paul Yoakam are commendable. Their contributions to their community and Scouting exemplify the best of our young citizens. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring these outstanding young men for their exemplary service and leadership.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House during yesterday's two roll call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of both H.R. 8371 (Roll Call No. 466) and H.R. 5658 (Roll Call No. 467).

HONORING TERRY LINDLEY

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague Congressman MIKE THOMPSON to honor Terry Lindley in celebration of his retirement after thirty years of service on the Sonoma County Junior College District Board of Trustees. We commend his outstanding service to the students and faculty of the Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC).

Raised on a family ranch in Humboldt County, Mr. Lindley developed an appreciation for farming at an early age. While attending Fern-dale High School, Mr. Lindley met Steve Olson, his then agriculture teacher who went on to become a lifelong friend and mentor. His counsel and guidance steered Mr. Lindley to embark on a distinguished career focusing on community leadership and agriculture. After graduating high school in 1976, Mr. Lindley began studying agribusiness at SRJC.

After earning his degree, Mr. Lindley was hired as a loan officer and appraiser at American AgCredit. Over the course of forty years with the company, Mr. Lindley's knowledge of agribusiness helped him achieve increasingly

prominent roles, including senior vice president and chief marketing officer. Mr. Lindley's aptitude for hard work, deep understanding of agriculture and business acumen made him a remarkable pioneer in the agribusiness industry. Through his leadership, American AgCredit established the first marketing department in all of the Farm Credit System.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Mr. Lindley has made many enduring and positive impacts on the community during his decades of public service. For thirty years, Mr. Lindley has been a trustee of Sonoma County Junior College District, which oversees SRJC, during which he has demonstrated his incredible commitment to providing high-quality education to generations of students throughout our community in the North Bay. While he will be greatly missed in his retirement, Mr. Lindley's enduring legacy will be remembered through the newly opened Lindley Center for STEM Education at SRJC. This new lecture and lab hall provides state-of-the-art facilities for hands-on learning in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines.

Mr. Lindley's leadership in agriculture and agribusiness education has not gone unnoticed by our community leaders. He has been awarded numerous accolades in recognition of his service including the SRJC's President's Medallion, the 4-H Foundation's Shining Star Award, the Spirit of Sonoma County Award, and Sonoma County's North Bay Rancher of the Year award.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that Mr. Lindley has been an excellent steward of Santa Rosa Junior College and a dedicated community member of Sonoma County's agricultural community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

REMEMBERING WILLIAM JOHN "WILL" OSTERTAG

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, William "Will" John Ostertag was born on March 2, 1996, to parents Stephanie Clemans and Jack Ostertag. He was a chubby baby with the biggest head anyone had ever seen, covered in bright orange hair. Will passed away November 14, 2024, from a sudden cardiac arrest. He was 28 years old. Heartbroken isn't a big enough word.

Will grew up in Louisville, Kentucky, where he attended St. Francis of Assisi Elementary School and St. Xavier High School. When Will was two, his brother Thomas came onto the scene. They fought like only siblings that close in age know how to. They supported each other in the same way.

Will was a shy but smiley toddler. He grew into a handsome, confident, and—to his nerdy family's surprise—exceedingly popular high schooler. He was a great tennis player, an Eagle Scout, a UK basketball superfan, and the host of more than a few unauthorized house parties.

After graduating from Miami University, Will spent two years in Indianapolis with the Teach for America program. He earned his master's degree in education while teaching math at a