

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING DANNIE NEEDHAM

HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the Twenty-Fourth District of Texas, the 2023 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Dannie Needham, Staff Sergeant, United States Air Force, of North Richland Hills, Texas for the honorable service he performed while in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Mr. Needham enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1966, serving as a fuel specialist, with service in Vietnam. During his time in Vietnam, the airbase where he was stationed was attacked by North Vietnamese forces as a part of the Tet Offensive. While he was refueling a C-130 aircraft, an enemy mortar round hit the aircraft destroying it and causing secondary explosions across the airfield. With the fuel truck still near the aircraft, he raced to move the truck and then administered aid to another soldier who had been engulfed in fire retardant. His actions during the Tet Offensive earned him the Airman of the Year Award for the U.S. Pacific Air Forces. His decorations include the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

The selflessness Mr. Needham demonstrated in the U.S. Air Force continues with his service to his community. He actively volunteers with the North Richland Hills Police Department and the Knights of Columbus. He is also a member of the Men's Club of the Good Shepard Catholic Church as well as a volunteer of the church. Mr. Needham's service is consistent with the finest traditions of the United States Air Force and reflects great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

ABIGAIL DAUS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Abigail Daus for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Abigail is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and has achieved great things there and throughout her life, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Abigail—who strive to make the most of their education—develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Abigail's hard work, determination, and perse-

verance and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Abigail Daus on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HIGHLIGHTING WEST RANCH HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND'S ACHIEVEMENT

HON. MIKE GARCIA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the West Ranch Marching Band for their outstanding achievement in winning first place in Division 4A at the SoCal Marching Band Championship. Led by first-year band director Rod Schueller, the West Ranch Marching Band won every category leading up to their gold medal.

This significant accomplishment reflects the talent, hard work, and dedication of the students, staff, and parents involved in the West Ranch High School music program. Their performance was a true display of artistry, skill, and precision.

Four other high schools from the Santa Clarita Valley competed in the championships. Valencia and Canyon High Schools took second and eighth place respectively in Division 2A, while Saugus High School and Golden Valley took fifth and eighth place respectively in Division 3A. Each marching band has made their school and community proud.

I encourage all members of Congress to join me in congratulating the West Ranch High School Marching Band on their impressive achievement. Their commitment to excellence in their craft should serve as an inspiration to all of us. I wish them continued success in all of their future endeavors.

Once again, I extend a warm congratulations to the West Ranch High School Marching Band on this well-deserved honor.

RECOGNIZING DARWIN BYBEE

HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the Twenty-Fourth District of Texas, the 2023 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Darwin Bybee, Master Sergeant, United States Air Force, of Coppell, Texas for the honorable service he performed while in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Mr. Bybee enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1958, serving as an intelligence specialist with

service at the National Security Agency, an assignment as a consultant to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's Strategic Evaluation Task Force, and in West Berlin during the height of the Cold War. His decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Force Good Conduct Medal with one Silver Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Force Longevity Service Award with four Oak Leaf Clusters, the National Defense Service Medal, and Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, the Army Good Conduct Medal, and the Army of Occupation Medal.

The selflessness Mr. Bybee demonstrated in the U.S. Air Force continues with his service to his community. Over the past 15 years, he has served as a State Veterans Advocate at the VA Waco Regional Office and the American Legion Department of Texas. With the American Legion, he served in numerous positions of leadership including mentorship to the youth as Chairman of the Boys State Program. He also served as a precinct chair, a poll watcher, and in multiple leadership positions with the Heart of Texas Stamp Club. He was a volunteer of the AARP Tax-Aide Program where he assisted senior citizens with their taxes across the DFW Metroplex. He currently serves as the Chairman of the Coppell Senior Center Advisory Committee.

Mr. Bybee's service is consistent with the finest traditions of the United States Air Force and reflects great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF COACH BILL HILL

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate Coach Bill Hill on the celebration of his 80th birthday and recognize him for his decades of dedication to the many students of Gwinn.

Bill has served as a coach, instructor, and mentor for generations of students and athletes. Before settling in Gwinn, Michigan, Coach Hill spent 24 years in selfless service to the United States Air Force, retiring as a Senior Master Sergeant. Coach Hill served at many duty stations, including the Vietnam Campaign, where he earned a Bronze Star Medal; Tripoli; Libya; Japan; and KI Sawyer Air Force Base in Michigan. When KI Sawyer AFB was decommissioned in 1995, Coach Hill decided to stay in the area and continue giving back to the Gwinn community in new ways.

Mr. Hill soon began coaching for the Gwinn Middle/High School girls basketball program. The program was utilized by Bill to impart wisdom and character-building principles to his students beyond the basketball court. Upon

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

his retirement in 2020, due to the countless lives he positively changed, a Facebook group with over 200 members and hundreds of messages was made as a dedication to this exemplary coach. Bill has been dubbed a coach, role model, mentor, teacher, inspiration, and friend to many.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to celebrate the 80th birthday of Coach Bill Hill. An inspiration to the community. I wish Coach Hill all the best in his future endeavors.

EMILLEO BALDIZAN-MORALEZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Emilleo Baldizan-Moralez for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Emilleo has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Emilleo, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Emilleo's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada K-8 School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Emilleo Baldizan-Moralez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING PATRICK RYAN

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful nation and the citizens of the Twenty-Fourth District of Texas, the 2023 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Patrick Ryan, Major, United States Army, of Southlake, Texas for the honorable service he performed while in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Mr. Ryan was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Army in 1972, serving as a Military Police officer. His decorations include the Army Commendation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Korea Service Medal, and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

The selflessness Mr. Ryan demonstrated in the U.S. Army continues with his service to his community. He currently serves as the Fundraising Chair for the St. Peter Lutheran Church in Roanoke.

Mr. Ryan's service is consistent with the finest traditions of the United States Army and reflects great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JAMES
FOX MILLER

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I recognize the remarkable life of James Fox Miller.

James (or Jim/Jimmy to his friends and family) was born on June 13, 1939, in East Orange, New Jersey. He met the love of his life, his wife of 63 years, Barbara, at the University of Michigan in 1958, and he earned his J.D. from Northwestern University in 1965.

He was a man who embodied character and integrity. As a young lawyer freshly arrived in Florida, James quit his job in the first week rather than sign an affidavit he did not know to be true. He knew no one in his new home state, had no meaningful experience, and no clients, so he took whatever work he could get to support his young and growing family. From these spare beginnings, Jim eventually came to be recognized by his peers and the general public as one of the nation's top family law attorneys.

Amongst his many accomplishments, James served on the Board of Governors and then as President of the Florida Bar from 1990 to 1991.

In addition to being an exceptional trial lawyer, Jim was a prolific teacher and lecturer at seminars and law schools across the United States. He was passionate about mentorship and was instrumental in guiding and educating scores of young lawyers, helping to shape the next generation of legal practice.

James Fox Miller loved the law, his legal colleagues, and achieving justice for his clients. His practice was not solely about family law, but also about strengthening families, which was something he focused on with his own beloved wife, children, and grandchildren. The only thing stronger than his mind was his heart and his code of ethics.

My heart is with his wife Barbara, three children, and seven grandchildren, but his loss will be felt by our entire community. His life burned brightly, and it is reflected by all those he touched during it.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF WARRANT
OFFICER FOUR WILLIAMS (WILL)
ANAAB

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Chief Warrant Officer Four, Williams "Will" Anaab who served as a Department of Defense Fellow in my office throughout 2023. Last month, he concluded his work with my office, and I would like to thank him for his dedication and service to the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District. In fact, the impact of his work extended far beyond the geographical confines of my district and Georgia.

He was my lead staffer in organizing the Congressional Military Family Caucus 2023 Summit. This annual, bipartisan event, which I

co-host with my caucus co-chair, Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers of Washington and which alternates between Fairchild Air Force Base in Washington State and Fort Moore in Georgia. Will led the charge to organize last year's event which took place in March at the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center. Bringing together federal department and agency service providers as well as stakeholder groups like Blue Star Families, he created a forum through which we could learn from the insight and experiences of our servicemembers and their families as well as discuss ways in which Congress and the Federal Government may improve their quality of life.

He also became intimately familiar with the nuances and needs of Georgia's military family and veteran communities. Working with my constituent services staff in district, he diligently and compassionately strove to ensure that our federal departments and agencies were doing their utmost to provide the services and benefits servicemembers have earned in defense of our country.

Georgia is home to more than a dozen military bases and installations. They are a vibrant part of our great state's fabric and crucial to our national security. My district, alone, is home to three of these installations—Fort Moore outside of Columbus, Robins Air Force Base outside of Warner Robins, and Marine Corps Logistics Base in Albany. Will was a stalwart advocate for them and was true to the spirit of my office, working in a bicameral, bipartisan fashion to ensure Congress supported these military installations, the programs they house, and the troops as well as civilians who keep them operational and at the ready.

Will also helped facilitate a community forum that I hosted for municipal leaders and airport administrators in Thomas County and the surrounding areas to discuss with the Department of Defense concerns about the effects of operations at Moody Air Force Base on local air travel. His work helped bring people to the table, ensure greater understanding and appreciation for the challenges each side faces, and created better lines of communication that I will continue to foster in the years ahead.

The Army Corps of Engineers plays a vital role in Middle and Southwest Georgia and the waterways under its care play a huge role in the well-being of the counties and communities—from Bainbridge to Albany and all of the communities along the Apalachicola, Chattahoochee, and Flint Rivers. Will quickly immersed himself into the issues of local concern that involved the Army Corps of Engineers, and his work was instrumental in helping me bridge the divide between residents, local community leaders, and the Army Corps of Engineers to find solutions to the challenges they face.

While my office has hosted many Department of Defense Fellows over the years, this is the first time that the program has included Warrant Officer participants, and I can say with absolute certainty that the program is better for this. My colleagues and I can only benefit from adding the unique perspective that our Warrant Officers have and bringing their experience to the work we do in Congress.

Will demonstrated an extraordinary ability to grasp complex issues quickly. His calm and poised demeanor allowed him to thrive in the fast-paced political environment of our nation's