

COMMEMORATING THE SERVICE
OF SERGEANT MARK WILBUR

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 commemorate the distinguished career of Sergeant Mark Wilbur, Serial No. 30646, who is retiring from the Los Angeles Police Department after 30 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Los Angeles. Sergeant Wilbur has made significant contributions to the safety and well-being of our community, and his exemplary service is deserving of our highest recognition and gratitude.

Sergeant Wilbur was appointed to the Department on November 29, 1993. He has served in various capacities, including West Valley Patrol, Van Nuys Patrol, Rampart Patrol, Foothill Patrol, and Mission Gang Unit, among others. His leadership and expertise have been essential in maintaining law and order. He has received significant promotions throughout his career, as well as 342 minor commendations from the citizens and Department for his exemplary service. Sergeant Wilbur has also received three major commendations, including the Purple Heart, which he was awarded after being shot by a criminal gang member in 2006. His dedication, courage, and professionalism have set a high standard for all law enforcement officers, and his retirement marks the end of an illustrious career.

I ask that all members of Congress join me in expressing our sincere appreciation to Sergeant Mark Wilbur for his three decades of service to the Los Angeles Police Department and the people of Los Angeles.

RECOGNIZING JOSEPH CAMPBELL

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 Joseph Campbell, Lieutenant Colonel, United States Army, of Colleyville, 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. Campbell was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Army in 1986, serving as an officer with both cavalry and infantry units with deployments to Bosnia, Albania, and Iraq. He is a graduate of U.S. Army Airborne, Air Assault, Ranger, Pathfinder, and Northern Warfare schools. His decorations include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with three bronze oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with four bronze oak leaf clusters, the Army Meritorious Unit Award, the Army Achievement Medal with one silver and one bronze oak leaf cluster, and the NATO Medal. Additionally, he is a five-time recipient of the Gold German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency.

After his service in the U.S. Army, Mr. Campbell continues to devote himself to bettering our community. He currently serves as Vice-Commander of the Department of Texas for the American Legion. He also served as Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 10454 and is a member of the International Growth Committee. He was a recipient of the President's Lifetime Achievement Award and was selected as the Grand Marshal of the 2023 Tarrant County Veterans Day Parade.

Mr. Campbell'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 JOSE
LUIS LOPEZ

HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of José Luis López.

José was born on August 25, 1940, in Michoacan, Mexico, and moved to Houston in 1965. After working as a butcher in some of the finest hotels, he went into business for himself on Patton Street in 1977, opening the institution that would define the next 46 years of his life. He called it Gerardo's Drive-In—named after his newborn son.

José was an award-winning cook, whose tacos de barbacoa were celebrated as the "best barbacoa in Houston," according to the Houston Chronicle. Eater said it was one of the "20 Most Iconic Dishes in Houston" and Texas Monthly put it in the "top ten tacos" in the whole state, awarding a perfect score in their quest to find the "120 Tacos to Eat Before You Die." When Speaker PELOSI visited our district in 2018, there was no question on where to eat.

José's journey began with a simple dream of opening a taqueria, yet he built a place for family, a space of community, and a taste of home.

In a way, it is poetic that José will be laid to rest on a Wednesday. You see, even in his golden years, Thursday was always a working day, preparing the cabezas for the weekend tradition that brought the Northside so much joy. The sign out front said the rest:

"Gerardo's, Barbacoa, Vie-Sáb-Dom."
(Gerardo's, Barbacoa, Fri-Sat-Sun.)

José lived the American dream, and he lived it to the fullest. He joins his late wife, María de Jesús López, as they look down at all they built. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of José Luis López.

JOSEPH MARTINEZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

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

Joseph has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Joseph, 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 Joseph'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 Joseph Martinez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JENNIFER WEXTON

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Ms. WEXTON. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was not able to be present to vote on January 10, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 2, and NAY on Roll Call No. 3.

RECOGNIZING JASON STEINBECK

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 Jason Steinbeck, Major, United States Army, of Euless, 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. Steinbeck was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Army in 1992, serving as both a cavalry officer and a tactical intelligence officer, deploying as part of U.S. peacekeeping efforts in support of the United Nations Mission in Haiti in 1995. His decorations include the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, and the United Nations Medal.

The selflessness Mr. Steinbeck demonstrated in the U.S. Army continues with his service to his community. He currently serves as a member of the Park Hollow Homeowner's Association Board (HOA), volunteering countless hours to maintain the financial viability of the Homeowner's Association and ensure a safe neighborhood. Jason helps many neighbors with lawn maintenance and home maintenance. He works with the local governments including the City of Euless and Tarrant County to maintain the integrity of the HOA's common areas. He is also a contributor to North Texas Basset Hound Rescue and the Tunnel to Towers organization.

Mr. Steinbeck'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.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAVERSE CITY LIBRARY WOODMERE BRANCH

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Traverse City Library for 25 years of service to the Traverse City community.

Since 1999, the Main Library on Woodmere has hosted hundreds of positive initiatives, charity events, and educational opportunities for the community. Originally founded by the Ladies Library Association in 1869, the Main Library was housed in numerous locations before finding its current home. Along with the Main Library on Woodmere, the library system has grown to include the East Bay Branch Library, Kingsley Branch Library, and three member libraries: Fife Lake Public Library, Interlochen Public Library, and Peninsula Community Library. For 155 years, the city library has served as an integral space in the Traverse City community.

The Traverse Area District Library (TADL) was established in 1983, when voters ratified its establishment and approved an operational millage. It's thanks to the people of Traverse City who voted to establish TADL in the 1980s that Traverse City has its current main branch library building on Woodmere Avenue.

The library has spaces for all occasions—from reading on the spacious front porch or curling up with a novel by the cozy stone fireplace. Visitors can also utilize the vast multimedia space and learn from the library's local history collection. For the younger audiences, the library has a dedicated children's section and many educational events.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate the Woodmere Branch of TADL for an immensely successful 25 years of service. I wish the library and its staff all the best in their future endeavors.

LESLIE GUTIERREZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

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

Leslie has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Leslie, 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 Leslie's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

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

HIGHLIGHTING CHARLES HULL'S NATIONAL MEDAL OF TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

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 recognize Charles Hull, a constituent who truly embodies the American ideals of innovation and exploration. As an inventor and scientist, Mr. Hull has dedicated his life to the creation of technology that would be useful to his fellow creators.

Mr. Hull is no stranger to trailblazing. His greatest invention, the 3-D printer, came in 1983 and he co-founded the world's first 3-D printing company, 3-D Systems, just three years later. In 1987, 3-D Systems introduced the world to the stereolithographic apparatus machine, which produced more detailed products faster than ever before. The innovation didn't stop there, though, as Mr. Hull is also known as the godfather of the rapid prototyping movement. This movement focuses on utilizing technology, such as 3-D printers, to deliver one-of-a-kind pieces quickly so that inventors and scientists can focus their time on discovery. For these reasons, Charles Hull was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 2014 and more recently recognized by President Biden with the National Medal of Technology and Innovation. This recognition is extraordinary and couldn't be more well-deserved.

I want to thank Mr. Hull for his persistence and dedication to his trade. Our community is better because of him, and I look forward to hearing of his next innovation.

RECOGNIZING KEVIN SELLERS

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 Kevin Sellers, Colonel, United States Air Force, of Grapevine, 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. Sellers was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Air Force in 1995, serving as an acquisitions and material officer, with deployments to both Afghanistan and Iraq as part of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, respectively. His decorations include the Bronze Star, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Air Force Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Air Force Achievement Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Meritorious Unit Award, the AF Outstanding Unit Award with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with one Oak Leaf Cluster, the National Defense Service Medal with one Service Star, the Iraq Campaign Medal with one Service Star, the Global War

On Terrorism Expeditionary and Service Medals, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal, the Overseas Ribbon, the Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border with one Oak Leaf Cluster, the Longevity Service with six Oak Leaf Clusters, the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon (Pistol), and the Air Force Training Ribbon.

The selflessness Mr. Sellers demonstrated in the U.S. Air Force continues with his service to his community. He currently serves as a Tarrant County Precinct Chair, the Service Officer for the Grapevine Rotary Club as well as a member of its Foundation Board, and the Commander of the Airport Cities Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 10454 in Grapevine.

Mr. Sellers' 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 BETHANY REPUBLICAN-CLIPPER ON 150 YEARS OF PUBLICATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the Bethany Republican-Clipper of Bethany, Missouri, on celebrating its 150th anniversary. The Republican-Clipper has carried on the tradition of delivering local and national news to the residents of Northwest Missouri for over a century.

The Republican-Clipper was born out of the consolidation of two local newspapers in Harrison County; the Bethany Republican, founded in 1873, and the Bethany Clipper, founded in 1905. The papers were purchased and merged by Erwin C. Conger in 1929. The Republican-Clipper is the legacy of a strong journalism history in Harrison County, which at one time had at least 10 news publications, and is considered the longest running business in Harrison County.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in congratulating the Bethany Republican-Clipper on 150 years of publication. This newspaper has been keeping the people of Harrison County, Northwest Missouri, and well beyond informed for over a century. I am proud to have such a dedicated publication in the Sixth Congressional District.

MARIANA MICHELLE DAVILA
ROJAS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mariana Michelle Davila Rojas for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Mariana Michelle has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Mariana Michelle, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic