

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### RECOGNIZING SHAYLENE CORREA-VEGA

#### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 2024*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shaylene Correa-Vega for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Shaylene has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Shaylene, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Shaylene's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Shaylene Correa-Vega on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

### HONORING MARIA CISNEROS

#### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 2024*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Maria Eduvigis Lopez-Cisneros, whom I have named the 2024 Woman of the Year for Napa County because of her excellent work in our community. Woman of the Year recognizes women who contributed significantly to California's 4th Congressional District in Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, or Community Service.

Mrs. Cisneros was born in Jalisco, Mexico. She is one of 10 siblings and has been married to Gonzalo Cisneros for 25 years. They have a daughter named Maya "Yuni" Cisneros. Mrs. Cisneros received a bachelor's degree in Spanish literature and Culture from Sonoma State University and a master's degree in counseling from Sonoma State University. She also earned an Educational Leadership Credential from Sonoma State University.

Mrs. Cisneros is a prominent leader in quality education for students. She is an outstanding member of our community, having served on countless commissions and organizations throughout Napa County, including the Association of California Schools Administration, Fair Housing Napa Valley Board Member, Mentis Board Member, Napa Valley Community Foundation, Napa County Hispanic Network, and as a member of various other community organizations. Ms. Cisneros' dedication as a public servant is apparent.

Notably, Mrs. Cisneros has been an advocate of programs that support first-generation

college-bound students. Over her 29 years in the Napa Valley Unified School District (NVUSD), she has been critical in implementing the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program, increasing the number of students attending Summer Search, and working with the organization 10,000 Degrees. Mrs. Cisneros is a first-generation college graduate who was given many opportunities by her local high school community and college and has continued to pay-it-forward.

As a current principal of Valley Oak High School and Napa Valley Independent Studies, Mrs. Cisneros is a principal who understands the many challenges and needs of her students while also being able to balance that with pushing students academically to their highest potential. As a former counselor, Mrs. Cisneros can step into any problematic or delicate situation with students, families, or even staff and truly listen with ears and a heart to understand others. It is a combination of her wisdom, compassion, and strength that makes her such a great leader.

Mrs. Cisneros' incredible impact on our community has been recognized by many. In 2023, she was named the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Alternative Education/Educational Options Principal of the Year. She received the 2021 Napa Valley Center for Spiritual Living Celebrating Compassion in Action Award. In 2018, she received the Napa County Hispanic Chamber "Blend of Cultures" Harvesting the Future Award. These are just some awards that exemplify Mrs. Cisneros' constant and unwavering dedication to our community.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Mrs. Cisneros for her excellent service and passion for our community. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as Napa County's 2024 Woman of the Year.

### HONORING NASYA SHAFFER

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 2024*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious and self-motivated leader, Nasya Shaffer. Nasya Shaffer has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to achieve success.

Shaffer, a Yazoo County High School senior and resident of Yazoo County, serves as the vice president of both the Student Government Association and Beta Club. Along with her academics, she is also a member of the school's tennis team and cheer squad, where she serves as captain.

Shaffer currently has a 3.95 GPA and scored a 22 on her ACT. Nasya's favorite subjects are math and science, particularly physical science, and human anatomy. She re-

cently accepted a \$25,000 scholarship to Houston Christian University in Houston, Texas.

Shaffer has been around the family funeral home business for her entire life, soaking in the work ethic of her grandfather, father, and uncles.

For the future, Shaffer would like to open her own branch of the family's funeral home business. She is the daughter of Aerial and Dr. Shundria Shaffer. She is a member of the Word of Life Church in Ridgeland, MS. In her free time, she enjoys drawing and painting.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Nasya Shaffer for her passion and dedication to serve others and carry on the family business.

### RECOGNIZING DEVIN RAMIREZ ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

#### HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 2024*

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Devin Ramirez of Amherst, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Devin's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2028. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Devin brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2028. While attending Marion Steele High School, he participated in orchestra, L.E.O. Club, student government, and was on the honor role. Throughout high school, Devin was involved in track, soccer, and cross country, earning his varsity letter in all three. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Devin Ramirez on his offer of appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Devin will excel during his career at the Naval Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT TEDDY PEINADO

**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 2024*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Frank "Teddy" Peinado of Aubrey, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Teddy is a true American patriot who has dedicated himself to serving and uplifting our community.

Since he was young, Teddy held a strong passion for military history. He attended Texas A&M University as a member of its prestigious Corps of Cadets. Teddy graduated from Texas A&M with a bachelor's degree in construction science and later earned his master's degree in construction management. For over 30 years, he worked in the building industry and supervised the construction of over 11 million square feet of office space. In 2010, Teddy founded Peinado Construction, the largest industrial contractor in the Dallas-Fort Worth area with offices in Houston, College Station, and San Antonio. Peinado Construction specializes in industrial, data center, and office construction projects to deliver stellar results for clients.

For his outstanding work and entrepreneurship, Teddy received Texas A&M's Aggie 100 award in 2017 and 2018. He was recognized as the 2017 Hispanic Businessman of the Year by the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and serves on the board of the United States Hispanic Business Council. Additionally, Teddy is a passionate advocate for education. He established the Teddy Peinado Endowed Scholarship in Commercial Construction and the Peinado Industrial Tilt-Wall Construction Endowed Scholarship for Texas A&M students. As a strong supporter of our nation's veterans and first responders, Teddy actively works with Carry the Load, Helicopters for Heroes, 22 Kill, and Sons of the Flag. I am proud of the work he has accomplished for our community, and I wish him continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Teddy with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING THE GRADUATION OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT 160TH RECRUIT CLASS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 2024*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department and the graduates of the 160th Class. As they prepare to join the ranks of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, I encourage the 13 graduates to reflect on the history of the department and the contributions and dedication of the brave men and women who have served before them to protect our community.

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department's Recruit School consists of an ex-

tensive and demanding 24-week program. In addition to two weeks of orientation, recruits completed nine weeks of EMT training and eleven weeks of fire suppression training. Upon graduation, these recruits will be certified at the level of Firefighter I/II by the Virginia Department of Fire Programs.

These recruits have the distinct honor of joining one of the best Fire and Rescue Departments in the United States. The efforts of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department have been recognized across this country. Members from the Department serve on the elite VA Task Force 1, which is among the first units called to disaster zones to provide search and rescue support. Members of that Task Force were recognized by the International Association of Fire Chiefs with the Benjamin Franklin Award for Valor as a result of their efforts in the aftermath of the devastating earthquakes that struck Nepal in 2015.

Fairfax County is fortunate to have such excellent ambassadors for our community and I commend them for all that they have done to protect lives and property not only here in Fairfax County, but around the world. As the newest members of the Fire and Rescue Department, the 160th Recruit Class graduates join the department as integral parts of our community's emergency response and public safety team. I am confident that this graduating class will serve the residents of Fairfax County with honor and distinction. It is my great honor to include in the RECORD the names of the 160th Recruit Class:

Breckan D. Coleman  
Jose A. Cruz Morales  
Ryan P. Devine  
Jeffrey M. Early  
Robert V. Eickenhorst  
Kristin M. Irons  
Joshua R. May  
Xavier Pia Delgado De Molina  
Jake M. Rininger  
John-Scott Ruhren  
Joseph J. Tulko  
Ryan A. Wagner  
Jacob M. Wildesen

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the newest members of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. I thank them for their service to their community and to all members of the Fire and Rescue Department, past and present, I say: "Stay safe."

RECOGNIZING MICHELLE CHAVEZ RICO

**HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 2024*

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

Michelle has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Michelle, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Michelle's hard work, determination, and perseverance at

Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Michelle Chavez Rico on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING JANET THOMPSON

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 2024*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Janet Thompson, whom I have named a 2024 Woman of the Year because of her excellent work in our community. Woman of the Year recognizes women who contributed significantly to California's 4th Congressional District in Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, or Community Service.

Jan was born and grew up in Illinois. We have been married for nearly 50 years, and we have two wonderful sons and three beautiful granddaughters. Jan attended Indiana University and California State University, Chico, where she received her bachelor's degree in nursing. She also attended Sonoma State University, where she received her master's degree to become a family nurse practitioner.

During her 32 years as a registered nurse at St. Helena Hospital, Jan has worked to give the utmost patient care in our community. Throughout her career, Jan also served as a nurse at Mercy General in Sacramento. In Washington, D.C., Jan worked as a family nurse practitioner at Sibley Memorial Hospital and taught nursing at Georgetown University.

Jan has also generously volunteered her healthcare services to people across our congressional district. She has provided care to patients at Ole Health, administered physicals for student athletes in Napa and St. Helena, and served on the board for hospice care in Lake County. Her devotion to providing excellent care shows her compassion for and commitment to the people she serves. I have heard from many people in our hometown of St. Helena that they have woken up in the hospital and felt instantly comforted and relieved that she was there as their nurse. These stories are illustrative of her lifelong commitment to helping others.

Not only has Jan been an incredible community servant, but she has also been a dedicated and passionate partner to me and is always there for our district. When Jan and I first got together, she was the driving force in encouraging me to go back to college and complete my degree. She has instilled in our family the value of education as well. Without Jan's constant support, I would not be who I am today.

Simply put, I could not do public service without her. She is an important part of our team, and someone who is indispensable in our district.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Jan for her excellent service to our community. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as a 2024 Woman of the Year.