

Montezuma Fire Commission for two years. He also spent a decade as a member of the Solano County Agricultural Advisory committee and participated in Solano County's General Plan Update committee from 2006 to 2008. Lastly, he was a founding member of the Solano County Orderly Growth committee. Mr. Anderson's lifelong commitment to advocating on behalf of preserving land for future generations is why he is so deserving of this honor.

His life-long membership in various farm and agricultural organizations shows his understanding of the connection between agriculture and climate advocacy. He has been a member of the Solano County Farm Bureau for 45 years, a member of the California Wool Growers Association for 40 years, a member of the California Wheat Growers Association for 30 years, and of the California Grain Foundation for 12 years. His sustained dedication to conservation through his work with these organizations is admirable.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that Ian Anderson is a leader dedicated to preserving agricultural land for future generations as well as combatting the climate crisis. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor him here today as Solano County's 2024 Climate Crisis Champion.

HONORING JE'KARI CORDE'
DOUGLAS

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 remarkable servant, Je'Kari Douglas.

On June 7, 2007, Je'Kari was born at the Natchez Community Hospital to a resilient single mother which he credits his good behavior and his understanding of the value of perseverance and compassion.

Je'Kari proudly serves as a Student Ambassador for Natchez High School, a member of the National Honor Society, a varsity football player, having been chosen as an All-District wide receiver in the 5A Region 3 and received offers from several universities.

With hard work and dedication, Natchez High salutes this honorable student for maintaining a stellar 3.8 GPA, ranking number 10 out of 137 students in his graduating class.

Je'Kari's passion for learning extends beyond academics. He enjoys exploring different cars and animals, spreading joy through humor, and cherishing moments with loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable student, Je'Kari Corde' Douglas, for his actions and achievements in the Natchez, MS, community.

APPRECIATING MICHAEL GEFFROY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to recognize Michael Geffroy for his dedicated congressional staff service

as General Counsel to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

During the 118th Congress, Michael has been a valued member of the Commission, and I am grateful for his important work for the American people and protecting democracy. Michael's rich national security, legal, and military background contributed greatly to the work of our team. I value his counsel and it has been a pleasure working together to advance the Commission's noble mission of promoting human rights, bolstering military security, and furthering economic cooperation across the expansive landscape of 57 countries spanning Europe, Eurasia, and North America.

Prior to his service as General Counsel to the U.S. Helsinki Commission, Michael served in the Congress as the General Council to the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, as the Deputy Staff Director and Chief Council to the Committee on Homeland Security in the U.S. House of Representatives, and as the Deputy Special Council to the Select Bipartisan Committee to Investigate Preparation for and Response to Hurricane Katrina. He also served as an Assistant Director in the Office of Foreign Assets Control at the Department of the Treasury, as a Counselor to the Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division at the Department of Justice, and as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the District of Columbia.

Michael is a decorated veteran and Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve (ret). His more than 25 years of commissioned service includes tours with the First Marine Expeditionary Force in Afghanistan and Iraq.

I am grateful to Michael for his service to the Helsinki Commission and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING JAKE WOOD ON HIS
OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO AT-
TEND THE UNITED STATES AIR
FORCE 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 Jake Wood of Perrysburg, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Jake's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2028. Attending one of our Nation's military academies offers the opportunity to serve our country and receive a world-class education. At the same time, these young men and women undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Jake brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2028. While attending Perrysburg High School, he participated in National Honor Society, Spirit Club, Boy Scouts, and was on the honor role. Throughout high school, Jake was involved in wrestling, earning his varsity letter. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Air Force Academy.

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

HONORING THE EXTRAORDINARY
AND PROLIFIC MINISTRY OF THE
REVEREND DOCTOR WAYNE
DEAN BAKER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my heartfelt congratulations and appreciation to a loving husband, dedicated father, exceptional mentor, devoted leader, faithful servant of God, and friend of long-standing, The Reverend Doctor Wayne Dean Baker, as he concludes 40 years of dedicated service as the Senior Pastor of the Spirit Filled Ministries Church in Columbus, Georgia. A special celebration commemorating this special occasion will occur at the church on Sunday, May 5, 2024.

Reverend Dr. Wayne Dean Baker, a man of humble beginnings, was born and raised in rural Russell County, Alabama. His thirst for knowledge led him to graduate from Oliver High School in 1966 and later, in 1971, from Grambling State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration. However, it was in the same year that his life took a significant turn when he met the love of his life and lifelong sweetheart, Rita Delynn Howard. They were united in Holy Matrimony in 1974.

Dr. Baker experienced another life-altering event in 1975 when he was converted to Christianity in a shopping center in Cleveland, Ohio. Subsequently, Dr. Baker was licensed to preach in 1976 and was ordained in 1979. His ministerial journey led him to Pastor several churches, including Pleasant Grove, Peace and Goodwill, and Wayman Chapel in the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The scripture says, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." Frustrated by the tenets of liberal theology, Dr. Baker founded Spirit Filled Ministries in 1984. During his tenure as Pastor, he has preached over Ten Thousand Sermons, but more importantly, he has brought countless souls to Jesus Christ. Under his guidance, the church has flourished spiritually, numerically, and in its physical facilities. Doctor Baker has used his television ministry at Spirit Filled to reach the community in furtherance of Kingdom business here on earth.

Dr. Baker has never been one to rest on his laurels and has constantly expanded his educational horizons for the advancement of God and His people. He enrolled in Moody Graduate School to pursue a Master of Arts in Ministry. In 2018, he earned his Master of Divinity from Luther Rice Seminary in Lithonia, Georgia. He also earned his Doctor of Ministry from Luther Rice. Furthermore, he has pursued Ph.D. studies at Columbia Biblical Seminary.

Dr. Baker's work for God has not been limited to the community of Columbus, Georgia, as he has taught, lectured and conducted revivals on a global basis, including in South Korea and Germany. A voracious writer and biblical scholar, Dr. Baker has authored eight books: *Clay in the Master's Hand*; *Biblical Theology of Goals*; *Evangelism*; *Freedom Prayers*; *Ministry Handbook*; *New Members Handbook*; *The Case of Ham Revisited*; and *the White Jesus Myth Revisited*. It has been said that "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Dr. Baker has paid his rent and he has paid it well.

On a personal note, Dr. Baker has been a special friend for over four decades. We have enjoyed early morning competition on the golf course with friends during which he shared sage advice and counsel for which I will always be grateful. He never told me what I wanted to hear; he always told me what he felt I needed to hear. Dr. Baker has inspired and mentored many with his sterling example of what a man of God should be.

He has accomplished much in his life, but none of it would have been possible without the grace of God, the love and support of his wife of 50 years, Rita; his children, Zephaniah, Christian, Jonathan; his grandchildren, and other family members.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife Vivan and me, along with the 765,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District in celebrating the extraordinary and prolific ministry of the Reverend Doctor Wayne Dean Baker as he enters a new chapter in his life after 40 years of service to God at Spirit Filled Ministries.

HONORING THE CAREER OF CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER PHILLIP G. BOONE, RET.

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the admirable career of retired Navy Chief Warrant Officer Phillip Boone.

Phillip was born in Charlotte, North Carolina, in 1958 to Samuel and Mary Boone. After graduating from West Charlotte High School in 1975, Phillip immediately enlisted in the United States Navy at age 17.

His first assignment was aboard the U.S.S. *Eisenhower*, where he performed operations on the flight deck, catapulting and arresting military aircraft—one of the most dangerous jobs on a carrier. During his time in the Navy, Phillip sailed the world aboard four additional aircraft carriers and one amphibious assault ship, the U.S.S. *Wasp*. In 1986, he was promoted to Chief Petty Officer, and in 1988, he earned his commission as a Warrant Officer. After 25 years of honorable service, Phillip retired as a Chief Warrant Officer 4, having led thousands of sailors, managed budgets upwards of five million dollars, and went on ten peacekeeping and five combat deployments, including to the Persian Gulf and Grenada. His exemplary service earned Phillip the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal three times, the Navy and Marine Corps Achieve-

ment Medal, and many other personal and unit citations.

Following his retirement, Phillip became a Navy Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (NJROTC) instructor and used the position to motivate young men and women to join the armed services. For more than 23 years, he trained, taught, and mentored class after class of our Nation's youth, preparing them to take on life's challenges, whether they went on to join the military or not. His NJROTC cadets have logged tens of thousands of community service hours and won countless awards for military drill and marksmanship. In 2019, he was nominated for the Beaumont Foundation of America's prestigious "Wayne E. Reaud Excellence in Education Award," recognizing his outstanding service as an educator. That same year, he was also named Beaumont Independent School District's "Teacher of the Year."

It is a privilege to sincerely thank Chief Warrant Officer Boone for his exemplary service in the United States Navy and for his role in educating new generations of Americans. I offer my congratulations on his retirement, and I wish him and his family all the best in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, due to a family illness, I was unable to be present for votes on Tuesday, April 30, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 155; YEA on Roll Call No. 156; YEA on Roll Call No. 157; YEA on Roll Call No. 158; YEA on Roll Call No. 159; YEA on Roll Call No. 160; YEA on Roll Call No. 161; YEA on Roll Call No. 162; YEA on Roll Call No. 163; NAY on Roll Call No. 164; YEA on Roll Call No. 165; NAY on Roll Call No. 166; YEA on Roll Call No. 167; NAY on Roll Call No. 168; YEA on Roll Call No. 169; NAY on Roll Call No. 170; and YEA on Roll Call No. 171.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALMA S. ADAMS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 159; YEA on Roll Call No. 160; YEA on Roll Call No. 161; NAY on Roll Call No. 162; and NAY on Roll Call No. 163.

RECOGNIZING ABIGAIL DAUS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

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

Abigail 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 Abigail, 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 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 Abigail Daus on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING DR. LISA MICHELI

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 Lisa Micheli Ph.D., whom I have named the 2024 Climate Crisis Champion for Sonoma County because of the important work she has done to address the impacts of the climate crisis and extreme climate events like wildfires on California's 4th Congressional District.

Dr. Micheli was born in Boston, Massachusetts and moved to the Bay Area in 1988, and to Sonoma, California in 2001. She would go on to earn a master's degree in environmental water resources engineering and a doctorate in energy and resources from the University of California, Berkeley. She is a Fulbright Scholar who works closely with climate organizations from across the Earth's four Mediterranean regions. In addition to these impressive academic achievements, Dr. Micheli has a strong commitment to mentoring the next generation of climate leaders—particularly young leaders from historically marginalized communities.

Dr. Micheli is a champion for North Bay climate and wildfire resilience. In 2009, she founded the Pepperwood Foundation and served for over a decade as its first executive director. It is now a leading institute for regional climate resilience in Northern California. She also founded the North Bay Climate Adaptation Initiative. In addition to founding those organizations, Dr. Micheli has also worked as a senior researcher for the Sonoma Ecology Center and as a director of the Rutherford Reach Restoration of the Napa River. Through her work, Dr. Micheli developed near real-time climate and wildfire risk data that have made our region a leader in preparedness and response to extreme climate events.

Her leadership extends to the boards of many agencies and organizations dedicated to combating the climate crisis. Dr. Micheli has served the City of Sonoma as a Community Services and Environment Commissioner and on the Board of Directors of both After the Fire USA and the Wildlands Network. Moreover, she has served on the steering committees of the California Biodiversity Network and the Golden Gate Biosphere Network.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that Dr. Lisa Micheli is a leader dedicated to preventing and mitigating wildfires as well as to combatting the climate crisis. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as Sonoma County's 2024 Climate Crisis Champion.