

At the end of the Trump Administration, Ryan returned to the Homeland Security Committee as General Counsel under the leadership of then-Ranking Member John Katko. Later in 2021, Ryan took on an additional role as Deputy Staff Director. He has served with distinction in both roles since. Having worked with Ryan since the beginning of the 118th Congress, I have seen firsthand how Ryan exemplifies what it means to be a public servant. He possesses a wealth of knowledge in homeland security policy and the challenges facing our Nation every day. He has served the Homeland Security Committee faithfully under the leadership of three different chairmen or ranking member. Ryan's invaluable contributions have significantly benefitted the Committee's approach to our nation's greatest challenges, from the crisis at our Southwest border to the increasing threat of cyberattacks.

Ryan's steady leadership and wise counsel have helped ensure a seamless transition during a period of significant change, as Republicans took the House Majority in 2023 and the Committee on Homeland Security gained a new Chairman. He has been a key part of our historic successes this Congress—from the passage of H.R. 2 to the accountability of the Department of Homeland Security we have delivered for the American people.

I am deeply grateful for Ryan's invaluable service to the Committee and our Nation. Ryan is a true patriot, and I am confident he will continue to distinguish himself as he decamps for the private sector. On behalf of the United States House of Representatives and the House Committee on Homeland Security, I commend Ryan for his diligent service and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

#### RECOGNIZING MRS. CONNIE PLUM

#### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 6, 2024*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Connie Plum who spent 41 years as a phenomenal educator for King William High School and to congratulate her on a well-deserved retirement.

As a teacher, Connie dedicated her career to ensuring her students were civically engaged by organizing field trips to Washington D.C. to tour the Capitol. It is clear from the many honors she received just how impactful and loved as a teacher she truly was. Connie was voted King William High School Teacher of the Year three times, honored for Hardy County (WV) Teacher of the Year, and semifinalist for WV Teacher of the Year. Despite all these awards, Connie will tell you that her single most important accomplishment was helping "her kids" become better citizens.

Connie has set the bar high for teachers everywhere and for that, I thank her. For the positive impact she had on her students, Connie will be dearly missed in the King William County Public School district.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in celebrating the outstanding career of Connie Plum and congratulating her on retirement. May God bless her as she steps into this new chapter of her life.

#### HONORING THE CAREER AND SERVICE OF TIMOTHY WALKER

#### HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 6, 2024*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exceptional career and the dedicated service of Timothy Joseph Walker.

Timothy began his career in 1987, initially serving as a United States Air Force Explosives and Narcotics Detection K9 Officer with the Department of Defense. Transitioning to the United States Department of Agriculture in 1991, he continued his service as a K9 Officer at Newark International Airport and JFK International Airport. Following his tenure there until 1995, he spent the next year working with the Federal Bureau of Prisons as Correctional Officer and Special Response Team member in Ray Brook, New York.

In 1996, Timothy began his career with United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP), starting as a U.S. Customs Officer with the Department of Treasury at the Port of Alexandria Bay, New York. In 2003, he began his time with the Department of Homeland Security as a CBP officer and remained in Alexandria Bay until being promoted to Supervisory Customs and Border Protection Officer and moved to Ogdensburg, New York. During this time, he was responsible for front line management of daily operations. Continuing to display his leadership acumen, Timothy was promoted to Assistant Area Port Director Trade stationed in Alexandria Bay. In 2010, Timothy assumed the pivotal role of Port Director in Ogdensburg, serving an admirable three years before returning to Alexandria Bay and becoming Area Port Director, a position he has held since 2013. Presently, Timothy oversees the management of 226 Customs Border Protection employees.

Timothy's 36 years of employment with the United States is a testament to his unwavering commitment to our Nation. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am deeply honored to acknowledge Timothy Walker's extraordinary career, tireless efforts, and steadfast devotion to the United States.

#### RECOGNIZING SHYANNA MARTINEZ

#### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 6, 2024*

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

Shyanne 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 Shyanne, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Shyanne'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 Shyanne Martinez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

#### RECOGNIZING 2024 HMONG-AMERICAN DAY IN MERCED COUNTY

#### HON. JOHN S. DUARTE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 6, 2024*

Mr. DUARTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize May 14, 2024 as Hmong-American Day, honoring the legacy of the Hmong people who served, were wounded, or lost their lives in battle. Their sacrifice, to ensure America remains the land of the free, knowing we forever owe a debt of gratitude for their sacrifice. We recognize the important cultural, social, political, and economic contributions of Hmong Americans that provide generational enrichment and enhancement to this county across many sectors, including CBOs, business, healthcare, education, public safety, and government.

From 1961 to 1975, more than 40,000 Hmong individuals were recruited by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to fight alongside American soldiers in the Secret War, a vital part of the Vietnam War, in Laos. But in 1975, the Fall of Long Chen forced thousands of Hmong to flee Laos to seek refuge from persecution, where many refugees and their families immigrated to other countries, including the United States, and to California—where today Merced is home to more than 8,000 Hmong residents.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in celebrating Hmong-American Day and formally recognizing and celebrating the rich history, culture, and contributions of Hmong Americans in Merced County and other communities throughout California.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF ROLAND J. DE GOLIA

#### HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 6, 2024*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Ronald J. de Golia.

Ron was born in San Francisco, California on August 15, 1937 to parents John and Eva de Golia. He graduated from U.C. Berkeley with a BS in business administration in 1959. Ron also served thirty-seven years in the United States Air Force and Reserves, starting his military career during his senior year of high school and exiting in 1992 with the rank of Colonel.

Ron worked in information technology for thirty-eight years with Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical, Stauffer Chemical Company, and more. In retirement, Ron remained active in his community and enjoying his passions such as traveling, volunteering, bocce, pool, and exploring new foods and wines with his family and friends. Ron was an avid traveler, visiting over forty countries and every one of the states in the U.S.

Ron was deeply passionate about giving back to his community, volunteering with the Walnut Creek Police Department, Center for Human Development, Contra Costa Civil Grand Jury, Crisis Hotline, and the Kennedy-

King Memorial College Scholarship Fund, Ltd. Board. Additionally, Ron was a member of SIRS #146 and served as the club's treasurer.

Sadly, Ronald passed away on December 6, 2023 at the age of 86. He is survived by his children and step-daughter, Stephen (Wendy), Karen Meehan (Mark) Susan Hadfield, and Meredith Longshore (Gary Rowan), wife, Diane Longshore, his brother Jack de Golia (Brenda Buck), sisters-in-law, Lisa Nelson (Brad) and Erin Von Fenne (Gregg), brothers-in-law, Robert Tadlock (Kathy) and John Tadlock (Chantal), and his grandchildren, Kristen, Bryan, Katie, Kelly Anna, Roarke, Regan, and Riley.

He will be remembered for his devotion to his family, hardworking nature, and commitment to his community. Please join me in honoring Ronald Jose de Golia for his many contributions to the East Bay.

#### BERRYESSA SNOW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL MONUMENT EXPANSION

### HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 6, 2024*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to thank President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. for his proclamation pursuant to the Antiquities Act of 1906 expanding the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument. I also thank Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland, U.S. Senator ALEX PADILLA (D-CA), Congressman MIKE THOMPSON (D-CA04), and the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation for their support in conserving this special place forever.

President Biden's proclamation expands the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument to include approximately 13,696 additional acres of federally owned public land in Lake and Colusa Counties, California, encompassing the entirety of the Molok Luyuk region within the Monument. Second, it directs the federal Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service to improve tribal co-management of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument. Third, it renames the former Walker Ridge tract to "Molok Luyuk," meaning Condor Ridge in the Patwin language of the Yocha Dehe and other Native American tribes indigenous to the area.

I am thrilled that President Biden issued this presidential proclamation to preserve the tribal wisdom, heritage, and cultural traditions that Molok Luyuk has been home to for over 11,000 years. This expansion follows years of advocacy by me, Congressman THOMPSON, Senator PADILLA; federal, tribal, and local officials representing Northern California; and nongovernmental organizations, including environmental conservation, public access, outdoor recreation, and off-highway vehicle groups.

In July 2015, President Obama issued Presidential Proclamation 9298, establishing the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument. This set the boundary as federal land surrounding the Lake Berryessa reservoir but omitted Molok Luyuk in Lake and Colusa Counties. My legislation (H.R.761/S.393) in the 114th Congress with then-U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and Congressman THOMPSON to establish the National Monument would have included Molok Luyuk within the boundary.

In the 117th Congress, at the behest of Woodland, California-based Tuleyome, a non-profit conservation advocacy organization co-founded by my former constituent Bob Schneider in 2002, I introduced the "Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Expansion Act" (H.R.6366/S.4080) with Senator PADILLA and Congressman THOMPSON. I and other members of California's Congressional delegation then called on President Biden to use his authority under the Antiquities Act of 1906 to expand the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument and provide opportunities for federally recognized tribes like the Yocha Dehe to engage in voluntary co-management with the relevant federal land management agencies. We also called on Secretary Deb Haaland to order the U.S. Board on Geographic Names to officially rename Walker Ridge to Molok Luyuk. On May 2, 2024, I joined the President in the Oval Office with Secretary Haaland for a signing ceremony granting our requests.

Conserving California's special places has been a lifelong passion throughout my tenure in the state legislature, as Deputy Secretary of the Interior during the Clinton Administration, and now as a Member of Congress. Molok Luyuk is one of those special places. It was a privilege to represent Lake and Colusa Counties as the U.S. Representative for California's Third Congressional District from 2013 to 2023, and I am honored to have played a leading role in expanding the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument to preserve Molok Luyuk's ecological diversity and tribal heritage for future generations.

Lastly, I want to thank my former Legislative Assistant, Mr. Tigran Agdaian, and my former Knauss Fellows, Mr. Sean Mullin and Mr. Jeffrey Beauvais, for their important role in developing this legislation while on my staff.

President Biden's expansion of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument honors the Patwin Tribes who walked this land long before our country was founded. On behalf of California's Congressional delegation, I thank the President.

#### HONORING KAREN URBANO

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 6, 2024*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to honor Karen Urbano, whom I have named the 2024 Woman of the Year for Yolo County because of her excellent work in our community. Woman of the Year recognizes women who have made important contributions to California's 4th Congressional District in Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation or Community Service.

Ms. Urbano was born in Oakland, California. She lives in Woodland, CA with her husband Ramon and their three sons. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of California, Davis, and Certificate in Paralegal Studies from Montclair State College. She also received her certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language from the University of California, Irvine.

Ms. Urbano is a prominent leader in the voting rights community. She is an outstanding member of our community, having served

countless organizations throughout Yolo County. For example, she has served as both President and Vice President of the Woodland League of Women Voters. Some of her notable achievements as President and longtime member of the League of Women Voters of Woodland include working to register voters at local high schools, aiming to encourage the participation of citizens in their government, and observing various governmental meetings. She has also hosted forums for candidates running for local office and ballot issues, as well as informational forums on issues as varied as redistricting in California and climate change. Ms. Urbano has also partnered with local governments to inform and advocate for issues approved by the local League as well as the California and U.S. Leagues. Her dedication to these issues, and unwavering commitment to justice and equity for all, make her exceptionally deserving of this award.

Her impact is not solely limited to activism with the League of Women Voters. Ms. Urbano has generously donated to the Yolo County chapter of 100 Women Who Care, and to the UC Davis Chancellor's Club. She has served as a board member of the University Farm Circle in Davis. She has also served as a docent of the Woodland Stroll through History, and as a Paralegal at the Legal Services of Union and Middlesex counties in New Jersey. In addition, she has served as an instructor of ESL at Santa Ana College in Orange County. This dedication to worthy causes both inside and outside of Yolo County is awe-inspiring.

Ms. Urbano is also active in our community through religious organizations. She serves on the board of the Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry of California and the Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth. She has also been a board member and chalice lighter coordinator for the Pacific Central District of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

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

#### RECOGNIZING EDEN RAYNE NEHLS

### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 6, 2024*

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

Eden 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 Eden, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Eden'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 Eden Rayne Nehls on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.