

Reverend Cecil Williams: a spiritual giant who devoted his life to empowering those marginalized, forgotten and in need.

Reverend Williams embodied the Gospel of Matthew: 'for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you clothed me. I was sick and you cared for me. I was in prison and you visited me.' Through his many good works, he transformed countless lives—in the Bay Area and beyond.

Reverend Williams stood on the forefront of the American struggle for civil rights and social justice: whether fighting against racism, protesting the Vietnam War, confronting the crack cocaine epidemic or bringing compassion to those with HIV/AIDS, to name just a few of his many good works. In a moment when the LGBTQ+ community faced intense discrimination and stigma, Reverend Williams began presiding over the weddings of same-sex couples in San Francisco—nearly five decades before marriage equality became the law of the land.

Alongside his beloved wife Janice Mirikitani, who was his partner not only in marriage but in service, Reverend Cecil Williams helped launch and lead the GLIDE Memorial Church for six decades. Strengthened by their belief in unconditional love and the power of redemption, GLIDE has built a community of compassion and inclusion in the heart of one San Francisco's toughest neighborhoods. Today, more than 11,000 San Franciscans of all races, ethnic backgrounds, cultures, social classes, ages, faiths and sexual orientations are a part of GLIDE's vibrant, diverse congregation.

Living out Reverend Williams and Janice's faith-based social justice mission, GLIDE is also one of the largest providers of social services in the city. GLIDE serves three nutritious meals a day, 365 days a year, to thousands of San Franciscans in need—while offering comprehensive support services, including affordable, accessible, quality health care, mental health services, and HIV/AIDS and substance abuse treatment. GLIDE also helps women overcome domestic violence and oppression by providing housing, child care and supportive services.

Reverend Williams was not only respected but revered in our City as a clarion voice for love, respect and justice. At the same time, he embodied the spirit of our City's patron saint, Saint Francis of Assisi, who taught us to 'Preach the gospel. Sometimes use words.' Indeed, he preached the gospel with his inspiring deeds each and every day.

May it be a comfort to Reverend Williams' children Kim and Albert, his stepdaughter Tianne, his grandchildren and all his loved ones that so many San Franciscans mourn their loss and pray for them during this sad time—and that his saintly teachings will live on in the hearts of all those who were blessed to know him.

HONORING THE CAREER AND SERVICE OF GREGORY R. IANNELLO

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 dedicated service of Mr. Gregory R. Iannello. In addition to being an honored veteran, Mr. Iannello's tenure at Griffis Institute (GI) and his career with the Department of Defense stand as testaments to his unwavering commitment to safeguarding the United States.

Greg obtained the esteemed position of Senior T2 Agreements Subject Matter Expert at the GI, focusing on Technology Transfer agreements for a decade. His expertise encompassed Education Partnership Agreements, Commercial Test Agreements, Cooperative Research and Development Agreements.

During his 6 years with the Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA), Greg served in multiple capacities including Quality Assurance Specialist, Contract Price Analyst, and Contract Administrator. The remainder of his career with the Department of Defense was dedicated to the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL/RI), where he served as a Contract Specialist, Procurement Analyst, Grants and Agreements Officer, Contracting Officer, and R&D Contracting Branch Chief. During his time at AFRL/RI, Greg played a pivotal role in drafting Procurement Policy, Training, and Implementation. He spearheaded the utilization of Grants, Cooperative Agreements, Other Transactions, Technology Investment Agreements, and Consortium Agreements. Mr. Iannello dedicated 47 years to supporting the United States Air Force and the Department of Defense through both his direct employment, and his contributions at GI.

In addition to his impressive career, Greg holds a Bachelor of Science in Business and Project Management from SUNY Polytechnic Institute. He also achieved an Acquisition Professional Development Program Level 3 Certification in Contracting under the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act. He was an active member of the National Contract Management Association (NCMA) and held several offices including Leatherstocking Chapter President, Certification Chair, and Fellows Chair. He also served 3 years on the National Board of Directors and is an NCMA Fellow and Certified Professional Contracts Manager.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am deeply honored to acknowledge Gregory Iannello's extraordinary service, tireless efforts, profound commitment, and devotion to the United States.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 6, 2024

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, on April 29, 2024, I was not recorded on Roll Call Vote No. 153 and No. 154.

Had I been present, I would have voted "AYE" on both Roll Call No. 153 and No. 154.

HONORING SUZANNE FALZONE

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 Suzanne Falzone, an esteemed member of our Yolo County community. Ms. Falzone is being honored at this year's annual Yolo Farm to Fork board meeting for her pivotal role in shaping its success.

Ms. Falzone was born in Southern California and now lives in Davis with her husband Paul. She has two children and three grandchildren. She is a lifelong educator, having been a teacher, school administrator, and educational consultant. She has continued this passion for education throughout her professional career.

As one of its founders and now current President of the Board of Yolo Farm to Fork, Ms. Falzone has been instrumental in transforming Yolo County into a hub for agriculture and garden-based education. Her unwavering dedication and visionary leadership have not only fostered the growth of Yolo Farm to Fork but also left an indelible mark on the lives of thousands of children within our county.

Some of Ms. Falzone's major accomplishments with Yolo Farm to Fork include creating over 70 edible school garden programs, acquiring over 24 thousand pounds of produce from 20 small local farms for use in school lunches. Ms. Falzone has helped over 3,000 students visit local farms on field trips and has funded 136 college internships. Through her advocacy, Yolo Farm to Fork has not only been able to reach over 10,000 students, but also has provided them with the tools and knowledge to cultivate a lifelong relationship with healthy eating.

Ms. Falzone's dedication to educating our Yolo County community about the value of the farm-to-fork community food system is inspiring. Her leadership, fundraising acumen, and passion for cultivating a healthier future has established Yolo Farm to Fork as a cornerstone of community-driven agricultural education in Yolo County. Ms. Falzone's knowledge of and proficiency in grant writing and fundraising have helped to ensure that Yolo Farm to Fork has remained financially independent.

Ms. Falzone's work on behalf of Yolo Farm to Fork is awe-inspiring. Her tireless contributions on behalf of the organization and our broader community reflect her compassion and genuine desire to contribute positively to the people around her. Her devotion to bettering the lives of the children of Yolo County has left an indelible impact on our community.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Ms. Falzone for her dedicated service and philanthropic actions in our community and on behalf of Yolo Farm to Fork. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

RECOGNIZING TE'AIRA NUTTER

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 6, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Te'Aira Nutter for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

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

HONORING KEITH AND GINGER MYERS, FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO LOUISIANA'S HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY

HON. CLAY HIGGINS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 6, 2024

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Myers family of Lafayette, this year's University of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL) Alumni Association Spring Gala honorees.

Mr. Keith Myers and Mrs. Ginger Myers have served as health care industry leaders for decades. In 1994, they co-founded LHC Group in order to address the health care needs of Lafayette's aging rural community. The Myers grew a freestanding single home health agency into a publicly traded company of almost 30,000 employees, now operating in 38 states and the District of Columbia. LHC Group's success, along with its significant mission, must be attributed to the Myers' own virtue.

As LHC Group's first nurse, Mrs. Myers established the company's service-based culture. She has worked in a range of nursing and administrative roles in St. Landry Parish; served on LHC Group's board of directors; and helped to establish one of Louisiana's first rural health clinics. She was chair of the Opelousas Woman's Club board; a committee member for the St. Landry/Evangeline American Heart Association Heart Gala; and on the executive committee for Go Red for Women, an American Heart Association fundraiser.

For his part, Mr. Myers served as LHC Group's chairman and chief executive officer from the company's inception, up to its merger with Optum. He is currently senior adviser for Optum and chairman and CEO emeritus for LHC Group. Mr. Myers is a co-founder, board member, and current chairman of the Partnership for Quality Home Healthcare in Washington, D.C. He is also a co-founder and former board member of the Alliance for Home Health Quality and Innovation. He has served as a CEO member of both the Healthcare Leadership Council and the American Hospital Association.

Despite LHC Group's national expansion, the Myers have maintained their dedication to South Louisiana. LHC Group's headquarters are still firmly rooted in Lafayette. The Myers' longstanding commitment to health care and community is exemplified by LHC Group's recent commitment of \$20 million, over 10 years, to ULL's College of Nursing & Health Sciences. This investment will bring endowments, scholarships, research initiatives and capital enhancements for nursing and health sciences.

On behalf of Louisiana's 3rd District, I commend Keith and Ginger Myers for their generous work, and I thank them for their devotion to South Louisiana.

HONORING JACKSONVILLE MAYOR SAMMY PHILLIPS

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 6, 2024

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a faithful public servant, Mayor John (Sammy) Phillips of Jacksonville, North Carolina. Recently, celebrating his 50th anniversary of service to the city, Mayor Phillips dedicated most of his adult life to helping the people of Jacksonville. Everyone who knows him can attest to his strong work ethic and selfless devotion to his community.

In 1974, Mayor Phillips started his career as an officer with the Jacksonville Police Department and, after serving for over thirty years, retired as Deputy Chief of Police. Thanks to his leadership and dedication, the Jacksonville Police Department became a nationally accredited law enforcement agency in 1991. While Mayor Phillips served in the Police Department, he also worked to complete academic studies. He graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy, a premier law enforcement training program in Quantico, Virginia. Taking night classes, he earned a Bachelor's degree in criminal justice from North Carolina Wesleyan College. Mayor Phillips also completed a Master's in Public Administration from East Carolina University. Mayor Phillips's sacrifices during his law enforcement career to further his profession and knowledge base are quite laudable.

In 2004, when Mayor Phillips retired from the Police Department, he couldn't resist his love for his community and commitment to public service. After a few months of working around his house and playing golf, he filed for a seat on the City Council in 2004. After a stint on the City Council, he decided to run for Mayor and was elected in November 2007. Now going on 17 years, Mayor Phillips is the longest-serving Mayor of Jacksonville since W. Bruce Teachey. During his tenure as Mayor, Mr. Phillips has been known for his attentiveness to the concerns of his Jacksonville constituents. In 2017, when renewed racial tensions arose, Mayor Phillips was determined to bring all residents of Jacksonville together. He helped to launch the "One City, Our City, My City" campaign to promote healing in his community. In 2014, Mayor Phillips received the Long Leaf Pine Award, an honor given to North Carolinians with an exemplary record of public service. Mayor Phillips has spearheaded much development in the city, includ-

ing revitalizing the Jacksonville City Hall, building multiple fire stations, and constructing the Jacksonville Marina. A lifelong resident of Jacksonville, Mayor Phillips has demonstrated his love for the city and its inhabitants. I feel honored to extend this chamber's recognition of this faithful public servant, and I look forward to the future success of Jacksonville with Mayor Phillips at the helm.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILEY NICKEL

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 6, 2024

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, I was ill and unable to vote on Roll Call Numbers 172–176 on April 30, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 172; YEA on Roll Call No. 173; NO on Roll Call No. 174; YEA on Roll Call No. 175; and NO on Roll Call No. 176.

HONORING COUNCILWOMAN MEAGHAN TAYLOR FROM CULPEPER, VIRGINIA

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 6, 2024

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the impactful career of Culpeper Town Councilwoman Meaghan Taylor. Councilwoman Taylor has been a fixture of the Culpeper community throughout her years both as a resident and public servant of the community.

First elected to the Culpeper Town Council in 2014, Councilwoman Taylor has served with purpose and compassion. Currently, Councilwoman Taylor serves her constituents through her active participation in various committees, including as a member of the Town's Personnel and Ordinance Committee, as the Council Representative to the Culpeper Renaissance, and as a member of the Town's Planning Commission. She also serves as a board member of Full Circle Thrift. Previously, she served as the Chairwoman of the town's Public Safety, Public Works, Planning & Community Development Committee, as a member of the Town/County Interaction Committee, and as Council Representative on the Rappahannock Rapidan Regional Commission.

A pillar of excellence in the community, Councilwoman Taylor can always be found volunteering her time at Culpeper Renaissance, Inc. downtown events or going above and beyond to connect and deliver results for Culpeper. She brings joy and kindness to every community event and has been a bright light felt by us all. She has been a dedicated advocate for all who live in Culpeper and is well deserving of the highest honor and recognition.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the remarkable career of Culpeper Town Councilwoman Meaghan Taylor. She has built a legacy of service, and her contributions will continue to have a lasting impact on generations to come.