

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.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
JOSE LUGO

HON. JOHN S. DUARTE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 6, 2024

Mr. DUARTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of José Lugo. José was a loving son, father, brother, uncle, cousin, and friend. He put others before himself, and he made people laugh endlessly. He loved music and having a good time with his family and friends, while always ensuring that his friends and family were taken care of. While José is no longer with us, his loved ones are left with so many beautiful memories of him. His favorite places to visit were Half Moon Bay, Pescadero, or any beach.

He was selfless and truly had a heart of gold, and demonstrated this by choosing to donate his organs at the end of his life so that others would receive an opportunity to extend their lives. He was able to save five different lives by donating his earthly organs, and for that he is now a guardian angel and hero. He will forever be in his family's hearts, and with his loved ones wherever life takes them. We love him and he will be missed dearly. May he rest in peace.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF THOMAS W. KILLIAN

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 life and the dedicated service of United States Navy veteran Thomas William Killian.

Thomas was born on April 8, 1931, in Troy, New York where he was raised and attended school before enlisting in the U.S. Navy. Thomas enlisted in the Navy in 1951, serving for twenty years during the Korean and Vietnam Wars. During his time in the Navy, he was trained as a shipfitter and served aboard the USS *Baltimore* (CA-68), a heavy cruiser; the USS *Lowe* (DE-325), an *Edsall*-class destroyer escort; the USS *Sierra* (AD-18), a *Dixie*-class destroyer tender; and the USS *Jason* (AR-8), a *Vulcan*-class repair ship. Thomas remained in the Navy until September of 1971, when he retired at the rank of First Class (E-6). For his service, Thomas was

awarded the Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Vietnam Service Medal with two bronze stars.

Thomas married his wife Patricia in October of 1952. Together, they shared 69 devoted years of marriage and had 4 children: Thomas, Beth, Colleen, and Patricia. After coming home from duty, Thomas returned to his wife and children in Troy. Utilizing the skills that he developed during his career with the Navy, he obtained a job as a fitter and welder at McKinney Steel Fabrications in Albany, New York where he worked for 22 years until his retirement in 1993.

When Thomas was not working, he enjoyed spending time with his family. He had many hobbies including traveling, camping, surf fishing, and going on cruises. A beloved member of his community, he is remembered for his many professional and private accomplishments.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to recognize Thomas Killian's extraordinary life of service, hard work, profound commitment, and devotion to the United States.

HONORING THE NAPA COUNTY
LIBRARY LITERACY CENTER

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 the Napa County Library Literacy Center as they celebrate 40 years of literacy services.

In 1984, the Napa County Library was one of twenty-seven programs that help pilot library literacy within California, the first of its kind in the United States. The Literacy Center has committed to helping adult learners improve their reading and writing skills in English. Over 40 years, the Napa County Library Literacy Center has helped more than 15,000 adult learners become literate, expanding their capabilities.

With the assistance of volunteer tutors, adult learners can also improve their computer skills, receive guidance on financial planning, access translation resources, and gain skills needed to obtain their General Education Diploma (GED).

The Napa County Library has collaborated with several organizations in Napa County, including Napa Valley College, Napa Valley Adult Education, and the Napa Valley Unified School District, to provide various resources.

The goal is to broaden the opportunities for everyone in our community.

In partnership with the California State Library and Smart Horizons, the Napa County Library also offers adults the opportunity to earn an accredited high school diploma and career certificate online through Career Online High School (COHS).

With a dedicated group of volunteers and other literacy and library staff, the Napa County Library is proud to be a part of State Library Literacy Services. Together, they have provided assistance to over 300,000 adult learners through more than 106 programs.

Mr. Speaker, the Napa County Library Literacy Center is deeply appreciated for their work on behalf of our community. It is, therefore, fitting and proper that we honor the Napa County Library.

RECOGNIZING DEZIRE MILLER

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 6, 2024

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

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

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JODEY C. ARRINGTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 6, 2024

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on the following vote series. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No 153, and YEA on Roll Call No 154.