

Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Chris has dedicated himself to faithfully serving and protecting our community and country.

From 2000 to 2004, Chris served in the United States Marine Corps as a Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Defense Specialist and deployed to Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Along with his unit, Chris received the Presidential Unit Citation for extraordinary heroism in action. Upon returning home, he joined the Dallas Police Department and served with its Narcotics Division as a detective. During the execution of a search warrant, Chris stepped into the line of fire to suppress an assailant and protect two fallen detectives until they could be extracted. For his outstanding actions, he was awarded the Medal of Valor, one of the highest awards a police officer can receive.

In 2016, Chris began a career in real estate with a focus on his clients and helping fellow agents succeed. In his first year, he was named the Keller Williams Rookie of the Year for his exceptional performance and has continued to be a Top Producer. In addition to his real estate career, Chris is passionate about helping fellow veterans with PTSD and undiagnosed traumatic brain injuries. He co-founded the Texas Valor Project, a nonprofit that works to fund treatments for veterans and first responders who are affected by TBI. In only two years, it raised over \$500,000 to support the men and women who served our country. I am proud of the work Chris has accomplished, and I am sure he will continue to make a positive impact on our community for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Chris with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to our Nation and the people of North Texas.

#### RECOGNIZING JAXON CARLSON

#### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 17, 2024*

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

Jaxon has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Jaxon, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Jaxon's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Three Creeks K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Jaxon Carlson on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

#### COMMEMORATING ARMED FORCES DAY AND THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVE IN THE UNITED STATES MILITARY

#### HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 17, 2024*

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the service of our brave men and women for Armed Forces Day, May 18, 2024. Armed Forces Day is a seventy-four-year tradition to thank all of those who are currently serving, as well as those who have served and sacrificed to defend our freedom. It is because of their duty, honor, and courage that the United States of America remains free today.

This Saturday, the Western New York Armed Forces Committee will honor twelve service men and women at its 61st Military Ball, and it is my honor to include in the RECORD their names as a tribute to their service, and the service of their brothers and sisters in arms:

Staff Sergeant Martin Gutierrez—U.S. ARMY

Staff Sergeant Richard Hy—U.S. ARMY RESERVE

Technical Sergeant Andrew D. Lindaman—U.S. AIR FORCE

Technical Sergeant Brian P. Nosbisch—U.S. AIR FORCE RESERVE

Sergeant Ruby D. Wingo—NEW YORK ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Master Sergeant Seth D. Sampson—NEW YORK NATIONAL GUARD

Specialist Jazon Krauze—NEW YORK GUARD

Sergeant Tiffany Nowicki—U.S. MARINE CORPS

Staff Sergeant Landon Suber—U.S. MARINE CORPS RESERVE

Petty Officer First Class Pierce Schrecengast—U.S. COAST GUARD

Petty Officer First Class Nolan M. Kinne—U.S. COAST GUARD RESERVES

Lance Corporal James J. Ward—NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA

Western New York and the Southern Tier are home to many proud service members and veterans, and our community has a long and proud tradition of military service. It is my honor to recognize their bravery. On behalf of the United States Congress and the constituents of New York's 23rd Congressional District, I thank these men and women for their service and all those who continue to serve with them.

#### RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN TOM CRAMBLETT

#### HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 17, 2024*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate Captain Tom Cramblett for his 41 years of service on the Columbia Gorge Sternwheeler and designate May 30th as Captain Tom Day in Cascade Locks.

Tom has been part of the Columbia Gorge Sternwheeler community from the beginning.

As a young man, Tom first saw the Sternwheeler as she was being constructed by the Nichols Brothers in Hood River. He was aboard on her maiden voyage in 1983, serving as a deckhand. Before long, Tom was promoted to engineer and within a couple years became captain.

With Captain Tom at the tiller, generations of guests have delighted at the Columbia River Gorge from the deck of the Sternwheeler, learning about the Gorge's history from Captain Tom.

Tom's understanding of the region is steeped in his reverence for its history and its people. A noted expert on the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Tom addressed a room full of historians at the Corps of Discovery's 200-year anniversary celebration as it passed through Cascade Locks in 2004.

Tom's own family history stretches back five generations in Cascade Locks. His great-grandfather operated a wood scow, supplying sternwheelers with fuelwood cut from local forests.

Earlier this year, Captain Tom and his crewmember George valiantly saved the Sternwheeler after it broke from its moorings during a winter storm. They boarded the ship from a footbridge over the old locks where the boat had drifted and become lodged. Facing almost certain destruction, Tom piloted the ship away from hazard and downriver through the wind and roiling swell to safety below the Bonneville Locks.

Broader than the Sternwheeler, Tom's commitment to the town of Cascade Locks is legendary. A man of many hats, Tom served as town mayor for eight years, coached youth sports, led the Boy Scouts, acted as the town's Santa Claus, and volunteered at the Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center Museum.

Tom and his wife Brenda married in 1982, and have two sons, Jared and Scott, who are both in the National Guard. Scott has his captain's license and serves as engineer on the Portland Spirit.

Tom has also trained a number of captains now operating on the Columbia River, and currently works part time on the Port of Cascade Locks' maintenance crew, working to keep Marine Park beautiful and available to the public.

A true living legend, we designate May 30th as Captain Tom Day, in light of his contributions and decades of service to the Cascade Locks community.

#### CONGRATULATING PATRICIA "PATTI CAKES" BALDI ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE WEIRS DRIVE-IN THEATER

#### HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 17, 2024*

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Patricia "Patti Cakes" Baldi, who is being honored today for her retirement from running the iconic Weirs Drive-in Theater in Laconia, NH. While the Drive-in has been in operation since 1949, Patti Cakes purchased the property in 1974 and has since played an active part in continuing the theater's success. Throughout her career, Patti Cakes has been essential in adding three additional screens to

the theater as well as guiding her business through a global pandemic.

Since purchasing the Weirs Drive-in Theater, Patti Cakes and her team have cemented the theater's status as a staple attraction of the Lakes Region. Whether they came to see a summer blockbuster or participate in a community event, countless families from across the Granite State and beyond will forever cherish the memories they made at Weirs Drive-in Theater.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to thank Patti Cakes for the decades of entertainment and memories that she has provided to our community. I congratulate her again on her incredible career and I thank her for all that she has done to make our state such a wonderful place to live.

#### RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT BOB AMICK

#### HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 17, 2024*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Bob Amick of Rockwall, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Bob has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community and country.

Bob was born on August 21, 1939, in Gauley Bridge, West Virginia. He attended Gordon Military College and graduated from Marshall University with a BBA in banking and finance. Afterwards, Bob commissioned into the United States Army during the Vietnam War, where he served as the Commander of the Special Forces A Detachment and a company of Army Patrol Boats. He was also the Military Police Battalion Commander at Fort McClellan and held numerous leadership positions. For his outstanding service, Bob received numerous awards, including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device with two Oak Leaf Clusters, and two Gallantry Crosses with Palm from the former South Vietnamese government.

After he retired from the military in 1984, Bob served as the Director of Security, Director of Ethics, and Director of Plant Management for Raytheon for many years. In September 1999, Bob co-founded ComCept and served as its Vice President of Operations until his retirement in 2002. Along with his beloved wife Sandy, he co-founded Band of Brothers, Sisters, & Friends to support veterans and their families. The group currently has over 290 team members who are committed to uplifting the men and women who served our country. Bob credits much of his success and guidance in life to Sandy. Together, they raised two wonderful children and have one grandchild. I am proud to call Bob a good friend of mine, and I am sure he will continue to make a positive impact on our community for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Bob with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to our Nation and the people of North Texas.

#### RECOGNIZING ANNETTE ALAZAE REYES

#### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 17, 2024*

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

Annette 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 Annette, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Annette's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Standley Lake High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Annette Alazae Reyes on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 17, 2024*

Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on May 15, 2024, I missed Roll Call votes No. 198, No. 199, No. 200, No. 201, No. 202, No. 203, No. 204, No. 205, No. 206, No. 207, No. 208, No. 209, No. 210, No. 211, and No. 212 on the floor of the House of Representatives. I was temporarily ill and unable to vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted YES on Roll Call votes No. 200, No. 203, No. 204, No. 205, No. 206, No. 207, No. 208, No. 209, No. 210, No. 211, and No. 212. I would have voted NO on Roll Call votes No. 198, No. 199, No. 201, and No. 202.

#### CELEBRATING DR. RACHAEL MAHMOOD, THE 2024 ILLINOIS TEACHER OF THE YEAR

#### HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 17, 2024*

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate an educator from Aurora, Illinois. Dr. Rachael Mahmood, a fifth-grade teacher in Indian Prairie School District 204 at Georgetown Elementary School, was named the 2024 Illinois Teacher of the Year.

Dr. Mahmood has taught in her district since 2005 and came to Georgetown Elementary School in 2015. Dr. Mahmood was selected from a group of 13 finalists from across the state and is the first person from Indian Prairie School District 204 to be chosen as Illinois Teacher of the Year.

As the daughter of a Russian mother and an Indian father, Dr. Mahmood found her passion for teaching by overcoming obstacles she faced as a mixed-race student. Her dedication to service, education, and equity has allowed her to make a lasting impact on the lives of her students—whether it be helping them suc-

ceed in their studies or achieve their extracurricular goals.

Dr. Mahmood has also become an indispensable leader beyond the classroom, pioneering various cultural and social initiatives to create an inclusive environment where students can connect with their peers. As one administrator notes, she "embodies the qualities of an exceptional educator and inspiring leader."

At the end of the 2023–2024 school year, Dr. Mahmood will go on sabbatical, touring schools around the state of Illinois and sharing some of her valuable insight with her fellow educators.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Rachael Mahmood on being named Illinois Teacher of the Year and thank her for her commitment to improving education for young people in the Aurora community.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. BOB GOOD

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 17, 2024*

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for the second series on May 15.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 201; YEA on Roll Call No. 202; YEA on Roll Call No. 203; YEA on Roll Call No. 204; NAY on Roll Call No. 205; NAY on Roll Call No. 206; YEA on Roll Call No. 207; YEA on Roll Call No. 208; NAY on Roll Call No. 209; NAY on Roll Call No. 210; NAY on Roll Call No. 211; and NAY on Roll Call No. 212.

#### RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT JEFF SKINNER

#### HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 17, 2024*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Charles "Jeff" Skinner, Jr., of Rockwall, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Jeff has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community and country.

Jeff was born in Dallas, Texas, in 1981. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1999, where he served as a Field Radio Operator during the Global War on Terrorism. Along with his unit, Jeff was involved in numerous successful combat missions. Most notably, he participated in the longest amphibious airfield seizure in Marine Corps history at Camp Rhino, Afghanistan, and was one of the first Marines to enter Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. For his service, Jeff received numerous awards, including the Presidential Unit Citation, Navy Unit Commendation Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with two bronze campaign stars, and Iraq Campaign Medal with two bronze stars.

In September 2003, Jeff was honorably discharged from the Marine Corps. He currently operates Black Level AV, a small business that specializes in delivering elite audio and visual technology for North Texans. Jeff is