

HONORING SILVANA SALCIDO
ESPARZA

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the lifetime achievement of Silvana Salcido Esparza, a nationally celebrated chef, restaurateur, and civil rights leader.

Chef Silvana grew up in a multi-generational Mexican-American household in California's Central Valley. She learned to cook at her grandmother's side and founded her first food business—selling carnitas and tacos out of her parent's bakery—at just 15 years old, before attending culinary school. Chef Silvana traveled widely throughout Mexico as a young woman, sampling regional cuisine and speaking to chefs about recipes that had been passed down for generations. She settled in Arizona in 2002, where she opened her first restaurant, Barrio Café. Chef Silvana's elevated and inspired takes on regional Mexican cuisine quickly attracted notice. In 2004, just two years after Barrio Café opened its doors, she was inducted into the Arizona Culinary Hall of Fame. A seven-time James Beard semifinalist for Best Chef Southwest and a 2023 semifinalist for Outstanding Chef, she has earned features in *Latino* and *Esquire* magazines, *Diners Drive-Ins and Dives*, and NBC's *Today Show*. Barrio Café has hosted celebrities and U.S. presidents bringing all of Arizona closer together over its dining tables.

For Chef Silvana, cooking has always been an act of love for her community and her heritage. Through Barrio Café, she fostered a deeper appreciation and understanding of Mexican cuisine in Phoenix. From transporting key ingredients from Mexico to crafting flavorful dishes from family recipes, Chef Silvana created an ode who she most admires: Mexican women who cook. As a female chef in a male-dominated industry, she has mentored up-and-coming Phoenix chefs and continues to inspire young chefs across the country.

Moreover, her food has fueled community-driven activism. A proud member of the LGBTQ community, Chef Silvana has been outspoken against the waves of anti-LGBTQ sentiment. In the wake of Arizona's disastrous anti-immigrant law, SB1070, Chef Silvana brought paletas to counter-protestors and founded "Calle 16: A Mural Project", in which murals painted on the sides of Barrio Café and other Phoenix businesses highlighted the experiences of being Mexican American. During the Covid-19 pandemic, as restaurants across the state shut their doors, she repurposed her kitchens to prepare packaged meals for people experiencing homelessness for health care workers, and anyone else who needed a hot meal.

There are few people in Phoenix history who have left a greater mark on our community. This summer, after 22 years, Barrio Café will close its doors—but I know we haven't seen the last of Chef Silvana. I wish her the best of luck in this new chapter.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
ROMAN KUALAPAI

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Roman Kualapai's service to our Nation.

Roman was born on June 4, 2001 in Antioch, California. He graduated from Pittsburg High School in 2019 and enlisted in the United States Navy following his graduation. Roman attended boot camp in Great Lakes, Illinois then went to "A" school for his rate as Aviation Ordinance (AO) in Pensacola, Florida.

For the past five years, Roman has served our nation in the Indo-Pacific region where he was attached to the USS *Ronald Reagan* and was also with Squadron VFA 102 Diamondbacks. He achieved the rank of Aviation Ordinance 3rd class Petty Officer, Aviation Welfare. In recognition of his superior performance, Roman received the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal in April 2023. He was honorably discharged on May 14, 2024.

As Roman returns home to California, he plans to join Plumbers and Pipefitters UA Local 342, carrying on his family's tradition as a third generation 342 member. Please join me in welcoming Roman home and honoring him for his invaluable service to our Nation.

COMMEMORATING ONE HUNDRED
YEARS OF BOY SCOUTS OF
AMERICA TROOP 513

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Boy Scouts of America Troop 513 upon their Centennial Celebration. One hundred years ago, First Presbyterian Church in East Aurora offered to sponsor the new troop, known then as Troop 13. Generations of young men from East Aurora and the surrounding area have been well served by the lifelong skills learned during their time with Troop 513. Notably, this troop has produced over one hundred and seventy Eagle Scouts during their long history. I am incredibly proud of this culture of service that has been longstanding in our community.

On Saturday, May 25, 2024, Troop 513 will be hosting a celebration of this historic anniversary at American Legion Post 362 in East Aurora, where they will recall one-hundred years of scouting within the Town of Aurora and Western New York.

On behalf of the United States Congress and the constituents of New York's 23rd Congressional District, I congratulate the current and former members of Troop 513, both present at this celebration and leading their communities throughout the country.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE HUDSON RIVER
CLEARWATER SLOOP

HON. PATRICK RYAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of the Hudson River Clearwater Sloop—a champion of environmental activism and education that has sailed the Hudson since 1969.

Inspired by folk legend Pete Seeger, the Clearwater Sloop was born out of a deep commitment to protecting the Hudson River, Seeger, alongside his wife Toshi and a cadre of fellow musicians, created a replica of the historic sloops that once sailed the river. Their mission: to let residents experience the beauty of their river and be moved to preserve it.

Throughout its history, the Clearwater has consistently stood as a steward of the Hudson River. In 1970, it set sail for Washington, D.C., with thousands of petitions in support of the federal Clean Water Act. This historic voyage is credited with playing a pivotal role in the adoption of this historic legislation.

From successful campaigns against the Storm King Mountain power plant, standing up against pollution caused by PCB dumping from General Electric, to the thousands of students throughout my district who for generations have learned about the river through their educational programming, the Clearwater has been a beacon of advocacy, education, and it has helped shepherd in the modern environmental movement.

Today, despite its legacy, the future of the Clearwater is uncertain. Financial strain compounded by the challenges from the pandemic threatens to put a ship listed on the National Register of Historic Places out of commission. Despite this threat, hope remains high.

Together with the support of my constituents and the efforts of my office, we are working to not just save the Clearwater but also continue its mission. Last week, the House of Representatives passed my bill, the "Hudson River Protection Act." This vital legislation is yet another example of the challenges and work that lie ahead to ensure that we protect clean drinking water in the Hudson Valley.

As we recognize the work and legacy of Clearwater, I will end today with a line from a song written by its founder "Some day, though maybe not this year/My Hudson River will once again run clear."

HONORING CLAUDIUS BRITTON II
AND HIS SON CLAUDIUS
BRITTON III

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Claudius Britton II and his son, Claudius Britton III, both of whom demonstrated exceptional bravery and patriotism in their service to our nation during its founding years. Claudius II served during the American Revolutionary War, and Claudius III during the War of 1812.

This Memorial Day Weekend, the Huron Valley Chapter of the Sons of the American

Revolution and the Michigan Society of the War of 1812 will commemorate their contributions with a plaque dedication ceremony at Pinckney Cemetery, honoring them as the only Revolutionary War and War of 1812 veterans buried there.

Claudius Britton II was born in 1761 in Connecticut and relocated to Weybridge, Vermont, with his family in 1773. In 1777, at just 16 years old, he enlisted as a scout for the Vermont Green Mountain Continental Rangers during the Revolutionary War. His knowledge of the Lake Champlain area made him an invaluable asset, though his service placed him in constant danger. In 1778, both Claudius II and his father were captured by the British and spent nearly five years as prisoners in Quebec, making multiple escape attempts before eventually being released as part of a prisoner exchange in 1783. Despite these hardships, he returned to Vermont, married, and had children, including his son, Claudius Britton III, in 1798.

Though the specifics of the younger Claudius Britton's service are lost in time, we do know that he followed admirably in his father's footsteps by volunteering to serve in the Vermont militia during the War of 1812, at the age of 16.

Claudius III moved to Michigan with his father and his brother, Roswell, in 1824. He purchased land in what is now Pittsfield Township and built a homestead with his father. After marrying his wife, Sarah, in 1832, Claudius III continued to cultivate his land and started a family.

In 1835, Claudius Britton II petitioned to obtain a Revolutionary War pension. Unfortunately, his petition was denied on the grounds that he did not serve a full six months because most of his time was as a prisoner of war, which sadly did not count as service back then.

In 1836, Claudius III, his wife, and his father relocated to a large farm in Putnam Township, Livingston County, in what is now Pinckney. Father and son lived in Pinckney for the rest of their lives, passing away one year apart, Claudius II in 1850 and Claudius III 1851.

The Britton family's legacy of service, from Claudius II's daring scouting missions during the Revolutionary War to Claudius III's defense of our young nation during the War of 1812, exemplifies the courage and dedication of early American patriots. As we reflect on their sacrifices in the founding and defense of our country, let us commit to preserving the memory of all who have fought for our freedoms and to honoring their enduring impact on our country.

With profound gratitude, I ask that we honor the exemplary service of Claudius Britton II and his son, Claudius Britton III in the United States House of Representatives

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP JOSEPH RAVENELL

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated veteran, faithful pastor, and committed community leader. Bishop Joseph Phillip Ravenell celebrated his 45th

year as pastor of Samaritan Baptist Church in Trenton, New Jersey on April 16, 2024. May his good works and deeds continue to uplift the lives of many.

Bishop Ravenell grew up on a small family farm in South Carolina along with 10 siblings. He joined the U.S. Army in 1961, and did his basic training at Fort Jackson, in Columbia, South Carolina. With his faith forbidding him from partaking in combat operations, Bishop Ravenell instead committed himself to saving lives rather than taking them. He was assigned to the 24th Infantry Medical Battalion in Germany for 18 months where he helped save countless lives. He continued his service in the U.S. Army Reserve for many years and received a full honorable discharge in October 1967.

After military service, he attended St. Peter's College in Jersey City, New Jersey, where he pursued a Bachelor of Science Degree in American History. Answering the call to preach, he attended Princeton Theological Seminary, and received a Master of Divinity degree in 1976.

Bishop Ravenell began his ministry serving as Chaplain Supervisor at the New Jersey State Prison in Trenton. For almost twenty years, Bishop Ravenell ministered to inmates as well as their families. Seeing the need for continued care after release, he started the New Jersey Prison Community Network to help former inmates readjust to their communities.

Bishop Ravenell returned to the military and served as Chaplain at the 50th Armored Division Artillery Headquarters, and was promoted to Captain, Major, and Lieutenant Colonel. He retired in 2000.

Throughout his military service and career as a prison Chaplain, Bishop Ravenell proudly pastored the Samaritan Baptist Church alongside his late wife of more than 53 years, Elder Mary Jane Ravenell. They were both actively involved in community development, facilitating a weekly food and clothing drive, educational programs for youth, and outreach to unhoused people. Bishop Ravenell has also been actively involved in the North Ward Coalition, the North 25 Housing Corporation, the Concerned Pastors of Trenton and Vicinity, the Trenton Area Ecumenical Ministry, and Father and Men for a Better Trenton.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in celebrating the remarkable life and career of Bishop Ravenell. For decades, Bishop Ravenell's ministry, advocacy, and service has touched countless lives. May he continue to serve the Trenton community for years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PAUL FREDERICK ENGLER

HON. RONNY JACKSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Mr. JACKSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Paul Frederick Engler of Amarillo, Texas. Paul was a lifelong entrepreneur and innovator, whose passion and dedication transformed the cattle feeding industry.

Born in Stuart, Nebraska, Engler's passion for the cattle industry started at a young age,

buying his first cattle herd at age 12. At 15 years old, Engler graduated from High School and went on to complete his undergraduate degree in agriculture at the University of Nebraska.

Engler moved to Hereford, Texas in 1960, founding Hereford Feedyard, where his entrepreneurial instincts and determination allowed him to drive economic development in the Panhandle. By 1972, he had become an executive at Iowa Beef Processors, once the largest beef processor in the Nation. While Engler had already established a notable reputation for himself in the cattle feeding industry, in 1975, he moved to Dumas, Texas, where he founded Cactus Feeders, and under his leadership, Cactus Feeders would become one of the largest feeding operations in the world.

Through innovative feeding programs, rigorous quality standards, and a commitment to continuous improvement, Paul Engler elevated the standards of excellence in beef production, earning the respect and admiration of his peers across the globe. To name a few, he was named a "Top 40 Beef Industry Giant," received the Cattle Business of the Century Award, the Industry Advancement Award, and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association Vision Award. He was an initial inductee to the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame and the first recipient of the Industry Achievement Award. He was also inducted to the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and the Meat Industry Hall of Fame.

Beyond his professional achievements, at heart, Paul Engler was a philanthropist dedicated to giving back to the communities that have supported him throughout his journey. Through the Paul F. and Virginia J. Engler Foundation, he has made significant contributions to West Texas A&M University, where he received an Honorary Ph.D. in Business Administration and Agriculture from the College of Business and the College of Agriculture and Natural Sciences, both bearing his name. The Paul F. and Virginia J. Engler Foundation also helped establish the Engler Entrepreneurship Program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to support agribusiness and establish a student program focused on entrepreneurship with the goal that students who graduate from the program would return to their communities inspired to build strong businesses.

Engler was laid to rest in Amarillo, Texas on May 8, 2024, surrounded by his family and friends. His contributions to the agriculture industry will remain unmatched, and he will be truly missed by the countless individuals he impacted. Engler was preceded in death by his wife, Virginia, and his oldest daughter Teresa Raizen. Engler is survived by Michael Engler and wife Dalia, Matthew Engler, Mark Engler, Jennifer Coleman and husband Tom, and Sara Cady and husband Steve. He also leaves grandchildren Rachel, Nat, Garrett, Ryan, Ben, Claire, Jaxon, Emma, and Sofia, and four great-grandchildren Able, Trevor, Tyler, and August. Engler is also survived by stepdaughters Claudia Gilson and husband John, Cathleen May and husband Jeff, and Caroline Faulks and husband Steve. Paul also leaves behind his beloved sister, Katherine Anderson. A mentor and friend to many, I join his family, friends, and the people of the Texas Panhandle in celebrating Paul Frederick Engler's life and legacy.