

where they raised their two daughters, Megan and Emily. Their steadfast support has undoubtedly provided a foundation that allows Martin to serve to the best of his ability.

Detective McDonough has always been called to a life of service. Martin's journey in public service began as a member of the Warwick Township Fire Company. In 1981, he took the first steps towards his lifelong commitment to public safety by joining the esteemed ranks of the Northampton Township Fire Department, where he has served as a dedicated firefighter for over 40 years. His selfless contributions to the fire department exemplify his commitment to safeguarding the lives and property of our community members.

Transitioning seamlessly from firefighting to law enforcement, Martin embarked on a distinguished career within various Police Departments. During his tenure, Detective McDonough has held titles of dispatcher, patrolman, detective, and later chief of detectives, demonstrating exemplary leadership and integrity at every turn. Martin worked as a dispatcher for Northampton Township for five years before becoming a patrol officer in Warrenton Township in 1987. A year later he joined the Warwick Township Police Department where he climbed the ranks from Patrolman, Corporal, Detective, and lastly to Detective Sergeant. He dedicated 13 years of tireless service to this department, touching numerous lives in the community.

In 2000, Detective McDonough's career led him to the Bucks County District Attorney's office where he was a county detective for nineteen years. His unparalleled investigative skills and unwavering dedication to justice distinguished him as a formidable force against crime. After that committed time of service, Detective McDonough received a much-deserved promotion, receiving the new role of Chief of Detectives. In his new role, McDonough directed a diverse unit composed of 23 detectives including members of a drug strike force, who led or assisted municipal departments in the investigations of the county's highest-profile and most complex criminal cases. This enormous responsibility was a testament to Detective McDonough's exceptional capabilities and leadership, earning him the respect and admiration of his colleagues and community members alike.

I am eternally grateful to Detective McDonough for the life of committed service he has given to our community, district, and country. His selfless career is a shining example of civic stewardship that the next generations of law enforcement should strive to emulate. His leadership was instrumental in ensuring both the safety and security of our community. While Martin's presence will be sorely missed, I am excited for his entry into this new chapter and extend my heartfelt thanks and congratulations to Detective Martin McDonough on his well-deserved retirement.

#### CONGRATULATING KELLEN DALY

#### HON. RICK W. ALLEN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 21, 2024

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent, Kellen Daly, upon his acceptance to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

As a future cadet, he will be joining the ranks of the world's most fearsome fighting force—the United States Army—guided by duty, honor, and country.

The service and sacrifice of America's military personnel have safeguarded our Nation since its inception, defending our way of life from Lexington to Normandy.

And throughout our history, American soldiers have demonstrated tremendous courage and strength, beating back tyranny to the ends of the earth.

I was glad to sponsor Kellen's nomination and I am confident that his talents will distinguish him among his peers both during his time at West Point and thereafter.

Congratulations to Kellen, I know that he will make this Nation proud.

#### HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF GUNNERY SERGEANT STEVEN M. PHONG

#### HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 21, 2024

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of Gunnery Sergeant Steven M. Phong.

Gunnery Sergeant Steven M. Phong is a native of Long Beach, California. He graduated Recruit Training at San Diego, California on October 7, 2005 as a Private First Class.

After completion of Recruit Training, he attended Marine Combat Training School (MCT) at School of Infantry, Area 52, Camp Pendleton, California. Once completing MCT he attended Military Occupational School (MOS) at Camp Johnson, North Carolina for training at Supply School for the Enlisted Basic Supply Course.

In February of 2006, he reported to Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, North Carolina, Marine Corps Air Control Squadron 2, 2nd Marine Air Wing to serve as the Procurement and Fiscal Clerk.

In August of 2014, Corporal Phong reported to Anti-tank Training Company, Site Support Broken Arrow, Oklahoma and served as the Company Supply Administrations Chief, Embarkations Chief, and the Anti-Terrorism Assistant Officer.

Corporal Phong assisted in deploying and redeploying marines in support of Marine Expeditionary Unit 31's Unit Deployment Program and the Georgia Train and Equip Program. He also supervised logistics movements for training programs including Northern Strike, 29 Palms Integrated Training Exercise, Cold Weather training, African Lion and Red Flag Alaska.

In April of 2018 Sergeant Phong reported to 3d Supply Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd Marine Logistics Group in April 2018 to serve as the Battalion Supply Administrations Chief.

Sergeant Phong attended the Supply Chain Management Intermediate Course at Camp Futenma, Okinawa, Japan from August to September 2018.

In August 2019 Staff Sergeant Phong then assumed the billet of the Battalion Supply and Material Management Chief in 3d Supply Battalion in August 2019.

On August 13, 2021, Staff Sergeant Phong reported to Expeditionary Warfare Training

Group Pacific and assumed his duties as the Supply and Material Management Chief. There he worked in a joint branch environment and supported multiple warfare training courses.

Gunnery Sergeant Phong is currently serving as a Canvassing Recruiter in Recruiting Sub-station Orange County.

Gunnery Sergeant Phong's personal awards include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal and the Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal with two gold stars.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating the achievements of Gunnery Sergeant Steven M. Phong.

#### HONORING RICHARD ZUSCHLAG FOR A LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO LOUISIANA

#### HON. CLAY HIGGINS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 21, 2024

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Richard Zuschlag, a cofounder of Acadian Ambulance, national leader, and the very embodiment of Christian virtue.

Following a valiant battle with cancer, marking the end of a full and accomplished life, Richard has gone home to the Lord. For all who knew him and felt his compassion, Richard's 76 years are now the object of fond reflection and reverent admiration. His legacy will stand in perpetuity, sustained in the countless lives he touched.

'Richard Zuschlag' is a household name in Louisiana that is synonymous with charity, health care, and Louisiana business talent. Born in Pennsylvania, he first came to Louisiana as a young professional on work assignment. During this introduction, he came to love South Louisiana's community, people, and way of life. Ultimately, he chose to stay. Ever community-minded, he recognized shortcomings in local EMS services.

To fill this critical gap in medical service, Richard established Acadian Ambulance in 1971, as a provider of accessible, quality EMS care. He co-founded his Lafayette-based company with a revolutionary financing strategy, allowing clients to pay a very affordable yearly rate in exchange for full service. This winning formula opened private EMS service to Americans of all economic backgrounds. Richard's vision continued to shape Acadian Ambulance in this way, carrying it on a sure trajectory to success.

More than half a century after its humble start, Lafayette-based Acadian Ambulance is a nationally respected provider of quality EMS services—the culmination of Richard's career. All of Richard's work functioned according to his personal philosophy, endowed by his Christian faith. This approach, aptly characterized as 'putting people over profit,' fused his business acumen and humanitarian impulse.

Driven by these virtues, Richard was clearly destined to revolutionize the EMS industry, uplifting millions. In the wake of Hurricane Katrina's devastation, he deployed Acadian Ambulance's services to ease the suffering of fellow Louisianans in New Orleans. Richard directed this operation out of pocket, in lieu of a government contract or any guarantee of compensation. This occasion was one of many on which he courageously justified his

charity with morality alone. He always gave with disregard to any notion of self-preservation, even when his business could not afford to. Richard's Christian conduct of reckless selflessness foremost constitutes his life and legacy.

Millions of Americans now live reassured in the promise of Richard's work—EMS responders will come to their aid in moments of dire need. Richard's dedication has already culminated in countless saved lives and grateful families. Take heart that every life saved by Acadian Ambulance, now and forever, will be graced with the professional compassion of Richard Zuschlag.

As I contemplate the life of Richard Zuschlag, now in its entirety, Matthew 25 echoes in my mind: "His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord." Lord Jesus, thank you for Richard, and please hold him close in Your Kingdom.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE VETERANS LEGAL SUPPORT ACT OF 2024

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 21, 2024*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Veterans Legal Support Act of 2024, which would allow the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide support to law school clinical programs that provide pro bono legal and support services to veterans, including assistance with disability claims and foreclosures. There are at least 22 law schools that have clinics devoted to veterans' legal needs, including the William & Mary Law School Veterans Benefits Clinic, which was the first recipient of a "best practice" certification from the VA. There are many other law schools, such as the University of the District of Columbia's David A. Clarke School of Law, that are interested in starting their own VA-certified clinics. More needs to be done to sustain and increase the number of these programs.

I was a tenured professor at the Georgetown University Law Center and continued to teach a seminar there after being elected to Congress. I saw the expert assistance that clinical programs provide their clients.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, a concrete measure that would assist our veterans, who put their lives on the line for this country.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LEGACY OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL ALEXANDER JEFFERSON

#### HON. RASHIDA TLAI

OF MICHIGAN  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 21, 2024*

Ms. TLAI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the late Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Jefferson, a World War II Tuskegee Airman and one of Michigan's most decorated pilots as we prepare to dedicate a community gath-

ering space in his honor. Born in Detroit, he was the descendant of formerly enslaved people and would go on to become a Black trail-blazer.

One of the original Tuskegee Airmen, the U.S. Army's first Black Air Corps, Jefferson served as a P-51 fighter pilot with the Red Tail, 332nd Fighter Group 301st Fighter Squadron in Ramitelli, Italy. His unit bravely escorted bombers into action, providing critical protection from enemy aircraft and without losing a single plane. Jefferson was captured as a prisoner of war on August 12, 1944, three days before the invasion of Southern France, after he was shot down while firing at German radar stations on the coast. Presumed dead, he was held for more than nine months. He was liberated by U.S. Forces on April 29, 1945.

Following the war, Jefferson dedicated himself to education as an instrument instructor in advanced flight training at the Tuskegee Army Air Field in Alabama, continuing the storied Air Corps' legacy of excellence in flight. He was discharged from active duty in 1947 and retired from the reserves in 1969. In his civilian life, Jefferson worked as an elementary school science teacher in Detroit, where he would retire as an assistant principal in 1979.

He has received numerous awards and accolades for his bravery and his selfless service for our country, including the Purple Heart Award. He represented the best of Detroit. As we celebrate the dedication of the plaza in his honor, we offer our thanks for the service and legacy of Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Jefferson.

#### RECOGNIZING AFTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB

#### HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 21, 2024*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend the outstanding accomplishments of Afton Elementary School's Environmental Protection Club, also known as the Green Team, which is a group of teachers and students in the Pennsbury School District whose hard work and dedication has garnered them well-deserved recognition both statewide and nationally.

I am proud to announce the Green Team has secured first place in the state of Pennsylvania for their outstanding contributions to the environmental protection services and has been recognized as a runner-up in the nation. This remarkable achievement is a testament to the passion, hard work, and commitment of the members and the following Advisors of the Green Team.

Mrs. Kristin Slota, Miss Emily Kopchinski, Ms. Angela Petrucci, Miss Emily Kirsh.

The Green Team's impact extends beyond Afton Elementary, as they have engaged in a multitude of initiatives aimed at promoting environmental conservation and sustainability. The Green Team has taken proactive steps to raise awareness about gas safety throughout their school in collaboration with PECO, ensuring their peers are equipped with the knowledge and resources necessary to stay safe and informed.

The Green Team's dedication to beautifying their surroundings is evident in their initiative to plant daffodils, pick up trash, and clean up their school's courtyard, transforming neglected spaces into vibrant and welcoming environments for all to enjoy.

In addition to their local efforts, the Green Team has demonstrated a strong commitment to global conservation efforts by raising money and awareness for endangered wildlife, contributing to vital conservation projects that are essential for preserving our planet's biodiversity.

The Green Team's achievements serve as an inspiration to us all, reminding us of the profound impact that dedicated individuals can have on safeguarding our planet for future generations. The students who served on the Green Team for the 2023–2024 school year are:

Abigail Perez, Bridget McCarthy, Chase Geipel, Easton Samuels, Hailey Powell, Jack Fitch, Keshav Dave, Maddie Behme, Rose Nini, Violette Hausner, Agalya Manikandan, Brooklyn Bromberg, Daniel Hartman, Ethan Moses, Hazel DeSantis, Jaya Dave, Lila Kelly, Nayan Aggarwal, Sienna Burton, Xander Matlick.

Avery Cumberland, Caitlin Castner, Daniel Stauss, Gloria Naumovich, Henry Bankoske, Justin Navon, Luca Incontro, Reuben Hollins, Stevie Birnbaum, Benjamin Strauss, Caroline Fitch, Danielle Bosque, Grace Carr, Ishaan Moghe, Kaitlin Savage, Mackenzie Holmgren, Riley Fitzpatrick, Veer Gandhi.

Therefore, it is with the utmost admiration and appreciation that I commend the Afton Elementary Environmental Protection Club for their outstanding contributions to environmental conservation and sustainability. May their passion and dedication continue to inspire others to join them in the noble cause of protecting our planet.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the exceptional achievements of the Afton Elementary Environmental Protection Club.

#### CONGRATULATING CALEB TOTH

#### HON. RICK W. ALLEN

OF GEORGIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 21, 2024*

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent, Caleb Toth, upon his acceptance to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

As a future cadet, he will be joining the ranks of the world's most fearsome fighting force—the United States Army—guided by duty, honor, and country.

The service and sacrifice of America's military personnel have safeguarded our Nation since its inception, defending our way of life from Lexington to Normandy.

And throughout our history, American soldiers have demonstrated tremendous courage and strength, beating back tyranny to the ends of the earth.

I was glad to sponsor Caleb's nomination and I am confident that his talents will distinguish him among his peers both during his time at West Point and thereafter.

Congratulations to Caleb, I know that he will make this Nation proud.