

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION OF
THOMAS AUSTIN, ARCHITECT OF
THE CAPITOL

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I rise, along with my fellow members of the Architect of the Capitol Congressional Commission—Speaker of the House MIKE JOHNSON, House Minority Leader HAKEEM JEFFERIES, Committee on House Administration Ranking Member JOE MORELLE, former Chairwoman Kay Granger and incumbent Chairman TOM COLE of the Committee on Appropriations, and Appropriations Committee Ranking Member ROSA DELAURO, as well as my Senate colleagues, the Senate Majority and Minority leaders, the Chairwoman and Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, and the Chairwoman and Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Appropriations—to congratulate Thomas Austin on his appointment to the role of Architect of the Capitol.

The Architect of the Capitol plays a vital role in welcoming millions of visitors to our Capitol and ensuring it is a functional workplace. Thomas Austin has managed construction projects and facilities of all sizes, maintained one of our nation's most hallowed landmarks, and served our country in the military. We are confident that with his extensive experience, Thomas Austin will be an adept and capable Architect of the Capitol.

The Commission also wants to thank Chief Engineer Chere Rexroat and Chief of Operations Joe DiPietro for their service as successive acting Architects of the Capitol over the past year. Their leadership over the past year provided stability for the AOC and reassured us all that the AOC could continue to fulfill its important mission to serve Congress and the public. They have the appreciation of a grateful congressional community.

RECOGNIZING DR. JEFFREY
DUCHIN'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO
PUBLIC HEALTH

HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Jeffrey Duchin who is retiring after a thirty-year career in public health, most recently as the Health Officer for Public Health—Seattle & King County.

Dr. Duchin began working at Public Health—Seattle & King County in 1994 on assignment from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to handle the Tuberculosis and HIV programs. Four years later, Dr. Duchin served as the Public Health—Seattle & King County Chief of Vaccination and Communicable Disease Epidemiology, a position he held until he was named Health Officer in 2015. He has lent his expertise to numerous national policy and advisory bodies where he helped shape approaches to immunizations and infectious diseases. Dr. Duchin is also a longtime Professor at the University of Washington's Schools of Medicine and Public

Health. In this capacity, he provides mentorship to students and publishes research on communicable disease. His contributions to infectious disease research will undoubtedly leave a mark on the field for years to come.

Dr. Duchin's outstanding work helped King County and Washington State navigate the COVID-19 pandemic and better prepare for public health emergencies. In 2020, King County experienced America's first known COVID-19 case and the first large outbreak. Dr. Duchin immediately stepped into action and his leadership was nationally recognized. During this time, Dr. Duchin prioritized community engagement and solutions that centered equity. My staff and I partnered closely with Public Health—Seattle & King County during the pandemic. Dr. Duchin's invaluable expertise, frequent updates and excellent communication were essential for the intergovernmental partnerships that supported our communities throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Duchin's prioritization of science and deep understanding of the intersectionality of health saved countless lives.

Dr. Duchin's tireless commitment to public health has benefitted the lives of so many in King County and beyond. His leadership will serve as a model for Washington State's leaders for years to come. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating his many accomplishments and contributions to public health. On behalf of Washington's 7th Congressional District, I thank Dr. Jeffrey Duchin for his service to the people of the Pacific Northwest.

END JEW HATRED NATIONAL
CAMPAIGN

HON. NICK LaLOTA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Mr. LaLOTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the need to end antisemitism in this generation. I strongly condemn antisemitism in all its forms and I will continue to stand firmly and proudly to end discrimination against, and persecution of, the Jewish community.

Three years ago on Yom Hashoah, Israel's Holocaust Remembrance Day, members of the Jewish community in New York and New Jersey came together to form the End Jew Hatred National Campaign, aimed at creating a day of empowerment leading into Jewish American Heritage Month and recognizing the Jewish community's contributions to American history. I am proud of the work they have accomplished so far.

For millennia, the Jewish people have sustained their shared religious, cultural, and ethnic identity and traditions in the face of enslavement, persecution, genocide, segregation, and discrimination, and all manner of adversity. Despite their adversities, Jewish Americans have made indelible contributions to New York and the United States' culture, history, and social fabric, strengthening the country and helping shape all areas of American life.

While we have made significant strides to end the discrimination of Jews, the Jewish community has continued to be subjected to antisemitism and hate, including discrimination in the workplace, at school, and in public

spaces. The horrific tragedy of October 7th, and the war that has carried on since has led to a massive uptick of antisemitism. This antisemitism and hate has manifested itself as both discrimination and violence targeting Jews for their identity and seeking to deny their shared identity, including their connection to their ancestral homeland.

This can go on no more. We must stand as a unified front and combat antisemitism wherever it rears its ugly head. As long as I am serving in Congress, I will always support our Jewish community and work in a bipartisan manner to end antisemitism once and for all. On behalf of the First Congressional District of New York, I thank the End Jew Hatred National Campaign for their work and reaffirm my commitment to ending antisemitism and honoring our Jewish community.

HONORING DR. FEDERICO
ZARAGOZA

HON. SUSIE LEE

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor retiring Dr. Federico Zaragoza, who has proudly served as President of the College of Southern Nevada for half a decade.

Dr. Zaragoza has been an education leader for more than 20 years, playing a critical role in driving student success. Before relocating to southern Nevada, Dr. Zaragoza served as Vice Chancellor for Economic and Workforce Development at a network of community colleges in San Antonio, Texas. For the past six years, Dr. Zaragoza has led the College of Southern Nevada, including three main campuses, seven learning centers, and locations that span 8,000 miles. Under his administration, graduation rates at the College of Southern Nevada nearly doubled between 2018 and 2021, and the College was designated as a national Leader College of Distinction in 2019.

In addition to his role at the College of Southern Nevada, Dr. Zaragoza has held several leadership roles and memberships on state and national committees and commissions. As a Member of the Board of Directors for the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC), he advocates for nearly 1,200 community colleges and more than 12 million students nationwide. He also serves as the U.S. representative on the Board of the Inter-American Organization for Higher Education (IOHE). He has previously served on the National Skills Coalition's Think Tank, and as State Director for the Wisconsin—Job Training Partnership Act Programs, Dean of Continuing Education for the Milwaukee Area Technical College, and Vice President for the St. Philip's College Southwest Campus.

Throughout his career in education, which included delivering lectures and keynote addresses in the U.S. and across South America, as well as co-authoring workforce education materials, Dr. Zaragoza has received several awards for his work. These include the Education Brillante Award from the National Society of Hispanic MBAs (NSHMB) and the Texas Association of Community Colleges Carl Nelson Leadership Award.

Dr. Zaragoza has had a significant impact on higher education institutions and students

in Nevada and across the country. Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring Dr. Federico Zaragoza on his career of service and student advocacy, and in congratulating him on his retirement.

HONORING FIRST SERGEANT
MARC BELO

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Marc Belo, First Sergeant, 2-135th General Support Aviation Battalion. Marc was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on April 8, 1970, and graduated from Duquesne University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 1992.

Marc served this country for over 30 years beginning with his enlistment in the Marine Corps in 1994. He had the distinction of being a member of the elite Marine Helicopter Squadron One and transported the President, Vice President, and other heads of state around the world.

Following an honorable discharge in 2000, Marc enlisted in the District of Columbia National Guard to continue his love of flying, mainly on the UH-60 Blackhawk. As part of this enlistment, Marc was among those who responded to the Pentagon on 9/11. In 2004, Marc transferred to the Colorado Army National Guard and joined the 2-135th "Blackjacks." During his service, Marc completed deployments to Afghanistan, Iraq, Jordan, and Kosovo. While stateside, Marc contributed to critical missions including wildfire fighting and the National Guard helicopter high-altitude rescue program.

Marc was a dedicated husband and father whose humility, leadership, and good humor touched thousands of lives. He met his high school sweetheart Jennifer in 1986 and married in 1995. Together Marc and Jennifer had two daughters, Danjela and Nadija. Marc loved nothing more than spending time with friends. Marc and Jennifer lost their oldest daughter Danjela following a battle with brain cancer on August 15, 2023, only to learn a few months later that Marc had colorectal cancer. Marc passed on May 15, 2024, nine months to the day after his daughter Danjela.

This world is a better one because of the legacy that Marc leaves behind in those he impacted through his service, his friendship, and his dedication to his family. His service to our nation exemplifies the man, soldier, and Marine he was. I honor Marc and extend my condolences to his wife Jennifer, his daughter Nadija, and his friends and family.

RECOGNIZING MACKINAW TRAILS
WINERY AND BREWERY

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Mackinaw Trail Winery and Brewery on 20 years of business and service to the Upper Peninsula and Northern Michigan.

Founded in 2004, the esteemed business is owned and operated by Ralph and Laurie Stable, fulfilling Ralph's lifelong dream of owning a winery. In 2010, their son Dustin took over the operations of the production facility, continuing the family tradition of producing excellent wines for patrons all across the UP and state of Michigan.

Mackinaw Trails is rapidly expanding and is one of the best wineries in Michigan, with a brand new, state of the art facility that was recently built in Petoskey, Michigan.

The winery has been critically acclaimed as one of the finest in the entire state and has even been referred to as the "North Star" of the Michigan wine industry.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Mackinaw Trail Winery and Brewery on 20 years of business and service to the Upper Peninsula and Northern Michigan. Their excellence and hard work has been a boom for the local economy and a staple of the community, and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING LANCE CORPORAL
B.A. FRAZIER

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Lance Corporal B.A. Frazier on being named the South Carolina Highway Patrol Statewide 2023 Trooper of the Year by the South Carolina Department of Public Safety (SCDPS).

This award is presented each year to a South Carolina law enforcement officer whose valorous acts go above and beyond the call of duty.

Last year, after a late-night traffic stop for a speeding ticket, Lance Corporal Frazier was wounded when the driver opened fire before driving off. However, even with his injuries, he was heroically able to get a detailed description of the vehicle, which helped the eventual apprehension of the suspect shortly after.

Upon receipt of his Trooper of the Year recognition, Commander of the SC Highway Patrol, Colonel Christopher Williamson said, "Lance Corporal Frazier exemplifies the Highway Patrol's core values of selfless service, integrity, and responsibility, even in the moments after he was shot on duty. His resilience in his recovery and determination to return to duty after this incident reflects the true spirit of a dedicated public servant. We very much appreciate the SC Sheriff's Association for recognizing Frazier with this honor."

Lance Corporal Frazier is a Navy veteran who has been with Highway Patrol Troop 7 since 2018. He currently serves in Post A, which covers Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, and Hampton counties.

Additionally, I would like to recognize Destany Hodgkins for being the Blythewood Telecommunications Center nominee for the 2023 Statewide Telecommunications Operator of the Year Award by the SCDPS.

I am grateful to Lance Corporal Frazier and all those in the South Carolina Highway Patrol for their service in protecting the families of the Second District and the Palmetto State.

HONORING REV. DR. WADE A. STEVENSON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 21ST PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate my dear friend, and a respected faith leader, Rev. Dr. Wade A. Stevenson, on the occasion of his 21st pastoral anniversary at Gideon Missionary Baptist Church in Waukegan, Illinois. For more than two decades Pastor Stevenson's leadership has helped further the spiritual well-being of not only his congregation at Gideon, but the entire surrounding community.

Rev. Dr. Stevenson was invited to become pastor of Gideon Missionary Baptist Church in 2003. At the time, he was the Pastor for Farristown Baptist Church in Berea, Kentucky, the state in which he grew up and where he earned his degrees from the University of Kentucky and Lexington Theological Seminary. On October 19, 2003, Gideon held a formal installation service for Pastor Stevenson.

As a man of faith, Pastor Stevenson's mission for leadership is: To Equip the Saints to Serve, True to this mission, he has empowered his congregation to support their families, their church and their community.

I am honored to have personally observed, and experienced, the extraordinary leadership and powerful ministry of Pastor Stevenson for more than a decade. Across the year's, I have come to know Pastor Stevenson as an exceptional leader, teacher and friend.

Pastor Stevenson is widely recognized in our community for his remarkable service and many accomplishments. He even had the honor of delivering an opening prayer as guest chaplain in this chamber in 2016. Yet, more than the accolades and awards, he is beloved as a beacon of hope, optimism and spirituality for all who know him.

I congratulate Rev. Dr. Wade A. Stevenson, his wife Gloria, his three sons, and the entire Gideon family in honor of his twenty-first pastoral anniversary with Gideon Missionary Baptist Church, and in recognition of his 34 years in the pastoral ministry, I wish him and the entire congregation blessings of health, happiness and peace.

HONORING KIMBERLY DUDECK'S
CONTRIBUTIONS TO NORTHERN
INDIANA

HON. RUDY YAKYM III

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate Kimberly Dudeck, who is retiring on June 27 after 43 years of providing care to Hoosiers in northern Indiana as a recreational therapist, including for the past 36 years at Memorial Hospital of South Bend's Inpatient Rehabilitation center.

Raised in South Bend, Kim has spent over four decades embodying compassionate care and addressing the mental, physical, and spiritual health needs of the patients she has