

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
CHARLES BENJAMIN BASYE

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2024

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Charles Benjamin "Ben" Basye and his 43 years of dedication to serving this country. Ben served as a Navy pilot in the United States Pacific Fleet during World War II and in the Korean War.

For his time and service during World War II, Ben was awarded multiple medals including the World War II Medal and a Good Conduct Medal. In 1949, he was one of the first Navy Pilots to land a jet on a carrier. He did this in a Grumman F9F Panther Jet Fighter during the earliest stages of catapult take-off and landing operations. As a reservist, he served as a Consulting Engineer and Maintenance Officer. He retired from the Navy on his 60th birthday in 1987 at the rank of Captain.

Ben dedicated his life to improve the United States education system. Mr. Basye earned a Ph.D. in Theoretical and Applied Mechanics, to which he then served 37 years as an engineering professor in higher education. He wrote two books regarding his time in the military and education system and the values that should be upheld in these great American institutions.

Ben Basye was the embodiment of American ideals and exemplified at an extraordinary level what it means to be an American. Ben was willing to make any sacrifice, including the ultimate sacrifice, required to defend the values of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I am thankful for the opportunity to commemorate the life and service of a proud American, Veteran, and family man, Charles Benjamin Basye.

HONORING ELDER CORPORATION
FOR THEIR COMMITMENT TO
SERVICE MEMBERS

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2024

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the exceptional work demonstrated by Elder Corporation, a company that consistently goes above and beyond for our service members.

In 1960, with grit, determination, and a single rubber-tired Ford tractor, J. Elder's father and grandfather founded RG Elder. Today, Elder Corporation takes on some of the largest excavation projects in Iowa, laying groundbreaking work across the metro area.

Elder Corporation employs service members and veterans throughout the state, offering unwavering support, promoting their well-being, and fostering a deep sense of appreciation for their contributions. They even go so far as to ensure that lawns are mowed, and driveways are shoveled, allowing the families of service members to focus on what truly matters.

As a Colonel in the U.S. Air Force, I understand firsthand the profound impact a supportive employer can have on the families of service members. I extend my sincerest

thanks to Elder Corporation and wish to honor them for their steadfast dedication to Iowans, whether they are here in our great state or deployed around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the tremendous work that Elder Corporation has done for our service members.

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF CAN-
TERBURY WOODS
WILLIAMSVILLE

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2024

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Canterbury Woods Williamsville. Canterbury Woods provides seniors with a loving, welcoming home, where they receive top-quality care and are embraced by a supportive community. Through its parent organization, Episcopal Church. Home & Affiliates Inc., Canterbury Woods operates residences in the Village of Williamsville and the Elmwood Village.

After opening in 1999, Canterbury Woods Williamsville became the first continuing care retirement community in Western New York. This sixty-two-acre scenic property offers seniors the freedom to create their ideal lifestyle within the vibrant community. They provide residents with many essential services, including healthcare, independent and assisted living programs, memory care, skilled nursing, and rehabilitation resources.

In August 2023, Canterbury Woods grew its Williamsville campus as it opened the Canterbury Woods Performing Arts Center. This center brings live music, theater, and dance to residents and welcomes the entire community to enjoy performances.

Canterbury Woods' dedication to serving seniors with compassion and respect has earned them numerous accolades. Canterbury Woods facilities are accredited by the Continuing Care Accreditation Commission and have consistently earned Medicare's top 5-star Rating.

For 25 years, Canterbury Woods has provided exceptional care for the seniors in our community. Please join me in congratulating Canterbury Woods Williamsville on their 25th anniversary and thanking them for their remarkable service.

RECOGNIZING THE NEW NOVI
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LOCA-
TION

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Novi Chamber of Commerce on the opening of their new office location in Novi. This office opening not only represents exciting opportunity for the future but allows reflection on the great service the Novi Chamber of Commerce has already provided to the community.

For over 50 years, The Chamber has committed itself to serving the businesses of Novi

and promoting prosperity in the region. By providing a community networking space for Novi businesses and industries to come together, The Chamber has shown its dedication to building up the Novi community. With traditions like the Annual Golf Tournament, Kentucky Derby, and Toast of the Town, The Chamber has routinely brought together its members to form a strong business community and network in the area. Additionally, The Chamber provides local businesses, non-profits, and citizens with tremendous resources and programs to promote prosperity and growth in the local economy. By regularly hosting networking events, educational programs, and promoting local businesses, they have fostered an environment of innovation, support, and success in Novi.

The work and legacy of the Novi Chamber of Commerce is commendable. This new office location will allow The Chamber to serve the community better than ever before. The Chamber is now located to allow citizens better access to the services of The Chamber and participate in the thriving economic community. The growth, prosperity, and support this change represents is an exciting development for the Sixth District. The newer, bigger, and more central location will equip The Novi Chamber of Commerce and the community with greater resources and opportunity to continue to grow and serve.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the new office of the Novi Chamber of Commerce. We thank the Novi Chamber of Commerce and its team members for its service to the Sixth District and are excited to see how the new location helps serve the community well into the future.

HONORING CONGRESSIONAL
AWARD GOLD MEDAL WINNER
JAYDEN DANIEL

HON. MIKE COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2024

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Jayden Daniel, a young man from Eatonton, Georgia, who has earned the esteemed Congressional Award Gold Medal.

Jayden is the son of Shannon and Mark Daniel and a 2024 graduate of Gatewood School. An athlete, Eagle Scout, student pilot, and entrepreneur, Jayden has become quite the accomplished young man.

In fact, he is the founder and operator of Lake Country Driveway Cleaning, a pressure-washing business that he started at the age of 17. Jayden is also a young man dedicated to improving his community through service, having already devoted more than 600 volunteer hours.

Every year, he leads a community-driven Easter basket project aimed at spreading joy to local kids in foster care. This project is known locally as "Baskets of Hope" and has distributed more than 2,350 baskets filled with treats, toys, and essentials to foster children in 12 Georgia counties.

According to Jayden, "whether it's supporting charitable causes or extending a helping hand to the less fortunate," his goal is to "make a positive impact in the lives of others." From raising money for children who are battling cancer, to laying wreaths at Arlington National Cemetery, to working at the local food

bank, Jayden has continued to rise to the occasion.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the service and commitment of Mr. Jayden Daniel, who has earned the highest honor that the U.S. Congress bestows upon American youth. His extraordinary achievements are not only worthy of the Congressional Award Gold Medal but also of our respect and gratitude.

God Bless Jayden in his future endeavors. I thank him for everything he does and for allowing me to represent him in Congress.

RECOGNIZING MANUEL "MANNY" MORENO

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2024

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Manuel "Manny" Moreno, president of PJMB Commercial, Inc., for his recently confirmed position as 2024–2025 Chair of the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International.

As president of PJMB Commercial, Inc. Manny oversees a 25-building portfolio of more than 560,000 square feet in the San Francisco Bay Area. He has been an active member on the BOMA California Board of Directors for almost a decade and is a past president of the BOMA Pacific Southwest Region.

Manny served a two-year term as president of BOMA/Oakland-East Bay from 2014 through 2015 and he remains involved in the local association's Nominating Committee. In 2018, Moreno served as vice chair of BOMA International's BOMAPAC Council and participated in the Daniel W. Chancey Leadership Academy.

At the BOMA International level, he also has also been involved in a variety of initiatives, including the Standard Methods of Floor Measurement Committee, the Office Building Standard Revision Task Force and the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee.

Manny also serves on the Board of Managers for the Commercial Real Estate Certification Institute (CRECI), an independent certification body created by BOMA International and BOMI.

A dedicated community member, Manny serves as a Director on the Mountain House Community Services District Board of Directors. Giving back to his community, with a focus on its future, is a passion of his and he looks forward to his continued community involvement and service.

Manny is a husband to Ruby Moreno and a father to Lauren Moreno and Dominic Moreno.

Manny is focused, driven, and passionate about the commercial real estate industry, BOMA, and his community. Making a difference and having a positive impact on these areas are his guiding principles. I congratulate Manny on his new position as Chair of BOMA International and wish the best to him and the BOMA community.

RECOGNIZING JAVIER M. PEREZ, JR. ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2024

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with gratitude to recognize a great Missourian, Javier M. Perez, Jr., for his accomplishments with the Amalgamated Transit Union as he heads towards retirement. An experienced leader, dedicated professional, and advocate, Javier serves as a prime example of a true public servant and most importantly, a kind human being.

Javier began his illustrious career when he began driving a bus for the Kansas City Area Transit Authority in 1974. He became a member of Local 1287 and served as steward, Executive Board member, Vice President and was elected President in 1987. Furthermore, Javier earned a bachelor's degree in labor studies at Antioch University through the George Meany Center, now known as the National Labor College. He also attended and completed the Trade Union Program at Harvard University in 2009.

As a dedicated advocate, Javier has continuously been involved in advancing the rights of Latinos. He has been an active community service volunteer heading voter registration drives and assisting with summer Mural projects as a member of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA). Javier also served as a liaison for Cesar Chavez on two occasions during Chavez's trips to Kansas City in 2002.

Javier continues to be a force for positive change within Kansas City. Javier was appointed by Missouri Governor Bob Holden to serve on the Kansas City Missouri Police Board as a commissioner and later was elected President of the Board. Javier was elected an International Vice President in September 1995 and has worked with many locals large and small. On August 29, 2013, Javier was unanimously elected to be the International Executive Vice President of the Amalgamated Transit Union, becoming the first Latino to reach this milestone.

Beyond his extraordinary career achievements, Javier's tight-knit family continues to serve as an important pillar of his life. Javier spent over 40 exciting years with his lovely wife Lee Ann Perez until she passed into Glory in 2020. He continues to reside in Kansas City, Missouri, where he has three grown children and three grandchildren. Mr. Perez announced his retirement from the Amalgamated Transit Union, holding the second highest office in the international union.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and Missouri's Fifth Congressional District in congratulating Javier M. Perez, Jr. as he retires from his successful and impactful career representing Amalgamated Transit Union Members on the local, state, and national levels. Mr. Perez will continue to impact communities across Missouri and in his beloved Kansas City. On behalf of my colleagues and a grateful Nation, we thank him for his dedication and commitment to transportation improvements across the country.

RECOGNIZING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF DAKOTA COUNTY, MINNESOTA

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2024

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 175th anniversary of Dakota County, Minnesota. Dakota County was established as one of Minnesota Territory's original nine counties in 1849, and has played an important role in the history of Minnesota since the beginning. Even as the function and responsibilities of county government have changed over the past 175 years, Dakota County has remained one of the most important and influential counties in the state of Minnesota. It's now the third-largest county in the state and the largest in the Second Congressional District.

Indigenous people have been living in the land that is now known as Dakota County for many thousands of years. The lands of Dakota County were important for tribes to make use of the waterways for sustenance, transportation, and interaction with other tribes across the nation. The Bdote (confluence) of the two major rivers Misi zipi (Mississippi) and Mni sota (Minnesota) are also an important cultural location as the original birthplace of the Dakota people. By the time European settlers began making their way into Minnesota from the north and east, the Dakota and Ojibwe were the two main tribes, with the Kaposia band of Mdewakanton Dakota residing in this area, as well as Wahpekute and Sisseton groups nearby.

In 1851, Dakota leaders ceded millions of acres of land in Minnesota Territory to the U.S. government. This led to a marked increase in settlement in Dakota County. Dakota County was officially organized in 1853. The county seat was initially located at Kaposia (present-day South St. Paul) and then at Mendota before moving to Hastings in 1857, where it remains today.

Over the 175 years of its existence Dakota County has taken on many roles including providing public safety, keeping records, creating, maintaining, and repairing a system of county roads, assessing taxes, conducting elections, providing health care services addressing both the physical and mental health needs of its residents, operating a countywide library system and many popular county parks. Dakota County is regularly recognized on a national level for the high quality of its programs and services.

I have been proud to partner with Dakota County on many important initiatives including the creation of the Veterans Memorial Greenway, and significant improvements to Interstate 35, as well as securing investments for the Dakota County Sheriff's Office with body worn cameras and their electronic crimes unit.

It is my honor and privilege to represent Dakota County. I congratulate the Dakota County government on the celebration of their 175th anniversary, and recognize them for their many contributions to local residents, the state of Minnesota, and the Nation as a whole.