

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MASTER CHIEF BRADFORD YOUNG

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2024

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Master Chief Bradford Young of U.S. Coast Guard Station Traverse City for his dedicated service to our grateful Nation.

Master Chief Young, a native of Rancho Palos Verdes, California, completed boot camp in 1996. His first duty assignment was aboard the USCGC *POLAR SEA*, which deployed to Antarctica, Australia, Indonesia, Singapore, Japan, Russia, and Alaska during his service. After his deployment he attended Avionics Technician (AVT) "A" School in Elizabeth City, NC, and then reported to Air Station Los Angeles, CA, it was there that he became an Avionics Electrical Technician (AET).

In 2008, Master Chief Young returned to Air Station Los Angeles and deployed 3 times to Central America. His heroism didn't stop there, as he also supported Border Patrol Operations and helped to stop drug smuggling and illegal migrants off the coast of California.

Master Chief Young arrived at Air Station Traverse City in June 2019 as the Command Master Chief, where he served honorably until June 2024. His decorated career includes three CG Commendation Medals, three CG Achievement Medals and numerous other personal and unit citations which serve as a testament to his valor and character.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Master Chief Bradford Young of U.S. Coast Guard Station Traverse City for his humble and extraordinary service to our country. I wish him the best in his retirement and future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING TEXAS-24 HOME- TOWN HERO DEPUTY TODD TIP- TON

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Deputy Todd Tipton of the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office. On Wednesday, August 7th, as Deputy Tipton tried to serve an arrest warrant to a man suspected of child sex crimes, he was shot multiple times. After receiving gunshot wounds in the arm and lower back, as well as a bullet graze to the neck, Deputy Tipton was rushed to JPS Hospital where, miraculously, he was able to be released the same day.

A highly decorated officer, Deputy Tipton has been an integral part of the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office for the last 13 years, including in his current role as a member of the

SWAT team. Executing warrants to apprehend dangerous fugitives is one of Deputy Tipton's many duties that he performs daily to protect our community, putting his life on the line to keep North Texans safe. Despite being shot multiple times, Deputy Tipton is eager to return to duty as soon as he can.

I join the many North Texans praying for Deputy Tipton's swift and full recovery, and I thank him for his continued devotion to serving our community, even at great personal risk.

RECOGNIZING THE BARNESLEY RE- SORT AND JEKYLL ISLAND CLUB

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2024

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate two Georgia resorts—the Barnesley Resort and Jekyll Island Club—for being named a top 10 resort in the United States by USA Today.

The Barnesley Resort in Adairsville, Georgia placed No. 9 on the list, an English-inspired village community spanning over 3,000 acres.

The longstanding Jekyll Island Club placed No. 2 on the list, showcasing Southern hospitality and charm since its doors opened in 1888. Here, residents frequently enjoy the beautiful scenery and rich history of Georgia's coast.

These two resorts were chosen by a panel of experts and then voted on by USA Today readers. To qualify for the top 10 resort list, these resorts must offer the complete vacation experience, encompassing all that a vacation destination may offer to its guests on one site.

I am proud to celebrate this accomplishment for both the Barnesley Resort and the Jekyll Island Club and share this excitement with our great state of Georgia.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JERROLD MARTIN "JERRY" AXELROD

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2024

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jerrold Martin "Jerry" Axelrod, who passed away on August 19, 2023.

Jerry was born in Canton, Ohio on September 5, 1927. He served in the Army and studied at the University of California, Berkeley, but always remained incredibly close to his family. He and his brother, Warren, launched the highly successful company, Southwest Leasing, in Hollywood in 1960. Southwest Leasing eventually became headquartered in Beverly Hills and moved to West Los Angeles, where it occupied a city block and held thousands of cars.

He married his wife, Christine, in 1968 and moved to Beverly Hills in 1974 where he raised his two children. Jerry was deeply dedicated to the Beverly Hills community as a board member of the Maple Center, board member of City of Hope, and member of the Friars Club. He coached AYSO Soccer and was an avid supporter of the Beverly Hills Little League. He loved opening his home to others, hosting tennis tournaments, little league batting cage practice, Monday Night Football, and poker parties. He, Christine, and his stepson, Robert, moved to the Pacific Palisades community in 1997, where Jerry continued his legacy in creating meaningful relationships.

Jerry was a world traveler and he explored nearly every continent during his life. He was devoted towards exercising as he ran, boxed, weightlifted, swam, scuba dove, and practiced yoga. Jerry was most passionate about meeting new people and maintaining long-lasting friendships.

He is survived by many loving family members, including his wife, Christine; daughter, Jennifer Axelrod Clay (Ty); son, Danny Axelrod (Shannon); stepson, Robert Varie; three grandchildren: Cory (Kari), Molly, and William; and one great-grandchild, Samuel. May his memory be a blessing to all who know him.

HONORING GATORLAND ON THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2024

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, we recognize and honor Gatorland, the "Alligator Capital of the World," which opened in Orlando 75 years ago in 1949 as one of Florida's very first attractions. We also pay tribute to the continued dedication of the founding Godwin family and all the staff and employees who have made the award-winning, 125-acre theme park what it is today.

Not only is this a significant milestone for Gatorland but a significant milestone for Florida tourism, as generations of travelers from across the state, the country, and the world continue to visit a truly special place that has distinguished itself as a unique, genuine Real Florida attraction. Only at Gatorland can you encounter iconic experiences such as the Historic Gator Jaw Entrance, Gator Jumparoo Show, Adventure Hour Giant Alligator Feeding, Screamin' Gator Zipline zooming over hundreds of alligators and crocodiles, Stompin' Gator Off-Road Adventure, White Gator Marsh with the rarest alligators in the world, Alligator Breeding Marsh with Observation tower, Capybara Encounter on Flamingo Island and much, much more.

A beacon of education and conservation, Gatorland has evolved as a worldwide leader in alligator safety, research, rescue, and protection. The park's conservation program—

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Gatorland Global, is a testament to this daily mission. In fact, Gatorland has rescued hundreds of alligators over the years who were injured and at risk of not surviving, as well as those who were becoming a nuisance due to people illegally feeding them.

Just in the last year, the park rescued an American Alligator that was found missing her entire top jaw. This alligator, now named Jawlene, is thriving in her new home in "Alligator Paradise" at Gatorland and has since become a viral sensation and she is much beloved by the local community. In addition, the park welcomed the birth of Mystic, an extremely rare white leucistic alligator, along with her natural-color brother, Mayhem.

The park continues to rescue alligators and educate people on the importance of alligators and crocodiles to our ecosystems, to respect their power and beauty, and how to safely live with them in Florida and in communities around the world.

RECOGNIZING MR. WILMER LOY
ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2024

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and extend my heartfelt wishes to a dedicated veteran, farmer, and volunteer firefighter on his 100th birthday. Mr. Wilmer Loy, a lifelong resident of Crawford County, turns 100 on August 26, 2024.

Wilmer lived and worked in Crawford County until he was drafted in 1944 to fight in Europe as part of the U.S. Army. He initially trained in Georgia, but he was transferred to Belgium in 1945 where he trained on the 8-inch Howitzer. He participated in combat against Nazi Germany in the Black Forest, the Siegfried Line and the Rhine River. After the end of the war in Europe, Wilmer was transferred to the Pacific Theater where he served until the end of the war. Wilmer was sent home and honorably discharged from the Army after the Japanese surrendered in 1945. He was awarded the Good Conduct Medal; European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with one Bronze Star; and the World War II Victory Medal.

After his discharge from the Army, Wilmer worked at Chatfield Hardware for more than ten years. He went on to work the next forty years at Leonhart Gas and Oil in Tiro. He drove delivery trucks, semi tankers, and heavy equipment for the company while working on his farm outside New Washington, Ohio. Wilmer also served as a volunteer firefighter for the Chatfield Volunteer Fire Department for more than 60 years and was a member of the Tiro Volunteer Fire Department for more than 10 years. For the last seven decades, he has served in several positions with the American Legion Post 405 in New Washington and as a member of the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge 669 in Bucyrus.

Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to the life and service of Mr. Wilmer Roy. On behalf of the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Ohio, I recognize the devotion and compassion that Wilmer has for his community and our Nation. I wish him all the best on his 100th birthday.

HONORING TOM "SUNTAN"
SULLIVAN

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2024

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the extraordinary career of Tom "SunTan" Sullivan, from his service to our Nation to his hard work at the Barnes & Noble Bookstore at Northeastern University.

Tom has been called the "backbone" of the operations at the Barnes & Noble—as a warehouse manager he assured smooth facilitation of operations and inventory, holding a vital role which contributed greatly to the University throughout his tenure.

Tom served his country honorably as well, aboard the Navy's USS *Brownson* DD 868 from 1970 to 1975. Tom demonstrated great humility, honor, and determination in that role.

August 3rd is now known as "National SunTan Day," honoring a man who is beloved, admired and respected by all.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the extraordinary career of Tom "SunTan" Sullivan and I wish him the very best in his future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT
OF FERNANDO RUELAS

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2024

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fernando Ruelas and congratulate him on a remarkable 25-year career at the Coachella Valley Water District. As he prepares to retire, it is my honor to recognize Fernando's dedication to his work and thank him for his service to the entire Coachella Valley community.

A proud Mexican American, Fernando graduated from Indio High School in 1990. It was during these formative years that Fernando worked as a palm tree worker and dishwasher, where he developed his admirable work ethic.

In 1995, Fernando began working as a service worker for the Indio Water Authority. Through his hard work and dedication, along with the encouragement from his community, he sought out to further his career by acquiring six certifications to ensure a better future for himself and his family.

He began working for the Coachella Valley Water District in 1999. It was here that he climbed the ladder from meter repair trainee to Domestic Operations Manager. His leadership ensured our desert community received sufficient and treated water for residents and agricultural sites.

Fernando's journey of perseverance led him to a fulfilling chapter at the Coachella Valley Water District, where he founded and managed IRC Backflow, a thriving water backflow business. He balanced serving his community during the week and being an entrepreneur on the weekends, all while raising his three children—Fernando III, Silvia, and Maria—with his wife Giselle.

Mr. Speaker, in celebrating Fernando Ruelas, we celebrate the unwavering spirit of

a true role model. He has set an example for young people aspiring for a brighter future within our community as entrepreneur, public servant, and father. His dedication and impact have paved a legacy that will continue to motivate and uplift for years to come.

On behalf of California's 25th District, I extend my gratitude to Fernando and his family for his service as we join in congratulating him on his retirement.

HONORING SAMMY SULLIVAN WHO
LED THE U.S. WOMEN'S RUGBY
TEAM TO A BRONZE MEDAL FIN-
ISH AT THE 2024 PARIS OLYM-
PICS

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2024

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Fayetteville native Sammy Sullivan on leading the U.S. Women's Rugby team to a bronze medal finish at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Sammy was introduced to rugby at West Point and eventually fell in love with the sport following in her father's footsteps and earning her a Prusmack Award, recognizing her all-time try scoring leader and the top collegiate 7s athlete in the Nation. She dominated on the pitch and soon gained the attention of USA Women's 7s Head Coach Emilie Bydwell, who asked her to join the team. Sammy accepted, and has spent the last two years competing, and training with the USA Rugby team, earning the captain role. All the team's hard work paid off and was on full display during their fantastic Olympic performance this year. As a former UNCC Rugby player myself, I can confidently say that was some of the best rugby I've ever watched.

Sammy Sullivan is not only captain of the U.S. Women's Rugby team, but also serves as a Captain in the United States Army. The two Captainships have led many fans to lovingly refer to her as "Captain America." Here in North Carolina, we could not be more proud of her service to our country both on the pitch, and in uniform.

Sammy comes from a family of public servants. Her father was a Special Forces Operator, her brother is a member of the Army Infantry, and her mother is a teacher. I would like to thank Sammy and her amazing family for their steadfast commitment to our great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in recognizing Sammy Sullivan and the U.S. Women's Rugby Team on winning a bronze medal at this year's Olympics.

RECOGNIZING HOWARD SEID AS
UP VETERAN OF THE YEAR

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2024

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor Mr. Howard Seid as U.P. Veteran of the Year. An Air Force Academy graduate, Mr. Seid served in a multitude of roles