

James and Patricia McPherson Endowed Professor of American History position from 2019 to 2023. Throughout his distinguished tenure, he was known as a trusted advocate, mentor, and friend to students and faculty alike.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of Professor Kaster. His powerful legacy will live on through his loved ones and the generations of students whose lives he touched.

RECOGNIZING HONOR FLIGHT OF CENTRAL OREGON

HON. CLIFF BENTZ

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2024

Mr. BENTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Korean, Vietnam, and WWII War Veterans from Oregon's Second Congressional District who are visiting their memorials on the WWII Memorial through the efforts of Honor Flight of Oregon. When I have the opportunity to meet these heroes, I am reminded of President Ronald Reagan's words: "The future doesn't belong to the fainthearted; it belongs to the brave." Our veterans embody this spirit, having fought valiantly in Korea, Vietnam, and WWII to preserve the freedoms we hold dear. Their courage and dedication REMIND us that the price of liberty is always worth paying. It is my privilege to include in the RECORD their names.

Veterans on this Honor Flight from Oregon are as follows: George Adams, Valton Albert, Donald Bemis, Michael Donnelly, Charles Hagadone, William Hagadone, Kenneth Hart, Joseph Hironaka, Joseph R. Hironaka, Robert Houk, Neil Hummel, Paul Lofland, Katherine Berg, Matthew Markovic, Kevin Maher, Melvin Mook, Kevin Krieger, Thomas O'Neil, Richard Patten, Robert Penney, James SantaMaria, Michael Shellito, Robert Smith, William Smith, Keith Elzner, Larry Stoke, Steven Strable, Robert Verlezza, Duane Whitehead. These heroes join over 260,000 Veterans who have been honored through the Honor Flight Network of volunteers nationwide since 2005.

Mr. Speaker, President Harry S. Truman once stated, "Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude." As a Nation, we must never take for granted the liberties we enjoy today, recognizing that these freedoms have been hard-won by the honor, commitment, and sacrifice of our Veterans. Each Member in this chamber and every citizen in these United States should be humbled by the courage of the brave Veterans who voluntarily faced danger and adversity to preserve our country and way of life. Colleagues, please join me in thanking these Veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their remarkable service and devotion to our great country.

RECOGNIZING ASSISTANT SECRETARY CARMEN CANTOR

HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2024

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the outstanding service and

leadership of Assistant Secretary Carmen G. Cantor. With over three decades of commitment to public service, she has made significant contributions to U.S. territories and the international community as a whole. Her work as Assistant Secretary has earned the prestigious Commitment to Service and Leadership Award from the Friends of Puerto Rico organization.

Ms. Cantor's career has spanned across the federal government where she succeeded at every stop. She worked as an executive within multiple bureaus of the State Department. She also held significant positions such as Director of the Office of Civil Rights for the Foreign Agricultural Service and Director of the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity at the Federal Maritime Commission, where she championed equal rights and opportunities.

Currently, Ms. Cantor works as the Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs. She carries out the Secretary of the Interior's responsibilities for U.S. territories, administers federal assistance under the Compact of Free Association (COFA), and oversees international engagement, thereby advancing the Department of the Interior's mission and U.S. foreign policy.

Assistant Secretary Cantor was born in Puerto Rico and raised in the city of Mayagüez, she earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Puerto Rico and a master's degree from the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico, embodying the values of education and perseverance.

I want to thank Assistant Secretary Cantor for her tremendous dedication to public service. I look forward to watching her continued success.

HONORING ALEXANDER KOLODIN

HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2024

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Arizona's 8th Congressional District, it is my honor to recognize Arizona State Representative Alexander Kolodin from Legislative District 3, covering the north and east valley in the Phoenix-metro area.

Alexander is a phenomenal attorney and a staunch conservative. Since joining the Arizona Legislature in January 2023, Representative Kolodin has worked to influence and pass policies that benefit his constituents, while remaining absolutely true to his conservative values. He was extremely instrumental in helping the Rio Verde Foothills community regain a critical water supply in 2023, laboring across both sides of the aisle to find a successful solution.

Representative Kolodin has also sought to work on proposals to strengthen the state's election laws to help restore trust in our systems. He is a member of the Arizona Freedom Caucus, helping to ensure that conservative policies and processes are prioritized.

Arizona's 8th Congressional District is thankful for Representative Kolodin's endeavors on behalf of his district and our state.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY SHERIFF-CORONER JIM HART

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2024

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary public servant for his superb service to the people of Santa Cruz County, California, Sheriff-Coroner Jim Hart.

A native of Scotts Valley, Jim Hart has served our community with the County Sheriff's office for 36 years, beginning as a Deputy in October, 1988. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1998; to Lieutenant in 2006; became Chief Deputy of Corrections in 2011; and was elected Sheriff-Coroner in 2014. On August 7, 2024, he announced that he will retire on December 6, 2024.

Sheriff Hart proclaims Santa Cruz County as a wonderful place to live and work and says he wouldn't trade his career as Sheriff for any other, calling it an honor and privilege to serve. During his tenure, his leadership brought us through many difficult times including the CZU Fire, the COVID-19 pandemic, the killing of Sgt. Damon Gutzwiller and the protests following the killing of George Floyd. He served at the onset of theentanyl crisis and formed a team to respond to it, and he instituted community policing in the County, advocated for bail reform and supported immigrant communities.

When Sheriff Hart saw the U.S. Capitol being attacked on January 6, 2021, he called me to make sure I was safe, bringing me great comfort as I was hiding with colleagues on that fateful day. I will never forget his kind words.

Sheriff Hart and his wife Jackie are the proud parents of four children: Samantha, Elle, Nadene and Noah. He is a graduate of the University of Nevada-Reno and has been an adjunct faculty member at Cabrillo College and Bethany University.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring this great man of enormous integrity and professionalism and wish him every blessing in his retirement. We are a better community and a stronger country because of Sheriff Hart's leadership, making him a national treasure.

CELEBRATING THE URBAN LEAGUE OF UNION COUNTY'S 80TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2024

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and congratulate the Urban League of Union County on their 80th Anniversary. Since 1944, the Urban League has worked in Union County to assist African Americans and other underserved communities in achieving social and economic equality by providing education, housing, health services, and promoting economic self-reliance and civil rights. By working to ensure the success of individuals and families in Union County, the Urban League is truly working to

make New Jersey's 7th Congressional District a better place. I am honored to have such an amazing organization in the 7th District, and I look forward to seeing what they will continue to achieve in the future.

CELEBRATING NEON

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2024

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the remarkable achievement of the Northside Economic Opportunity Network as they break ground on their Food Entrepreneur Collective Kitchen.

NEON is an invaluable nonprofit in my district that fosters local entrepreneurship to help open and support small businesses in North Minneapolis.

North Minneapolis is a vibrant, diverse community full of drive and creativity—including aspiring small business owners striving to serve their neighborhoods. Due to historic disinvestment, it is also one of the Nation's most severe food deserts. NEON's transformative project will help to address both concerns.

Almost half of NEON's 1,000+ clients are food entrepreneurs, each of whom face the significant barrier of the Northside's lack of a commercial kitchen to grow their business. Thanks to NEON, this will no longer be the case. Their Food Business Incubator will be more than a commercial kitchen—it will provide an innovative, collaborative venue for these Northside entrepreneurs to start, thrive, and grow their business ventures. And, it will create an environment for a new generation of Northside entrepreneurs to give back to their community.

Team NEON, under Warren McLean's steadfast leadership, has worked tirelessly to make the dream of this Northside commercial kitchen a reality. I am immensely proud to have played a role in this amazing project by providing my first Community Project Funding award for \$1,000,000 for this project. Ever since, NEON has been a shining example of what these awards can accomplish and their immeasurable impact on our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating NEON on this momentous occasion. Congratulations to Team NEON.

RECOGNIZING JULIO ROLDÁN CONCEPCIÓN

HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2024

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize Julio Roldán Concepción, the Mayor of Aguadilla, Puerto Rico. His leadership these last four years has helped to grow and improve Aguadilla for all members of the community. His and his Administration's hard work helped Aguadilla to earn the Beacon of Economic Growth Award, presented by the Friends of Puerto Rico Organization.

Prior to his mayorship, Mr. Roldán spent his time helping and protecting his community. After high school, the Mayor joined the na-

tional guard to serve his country and community. Shortly after this, Mr. Roldán worked as a corrections officer to uphold the law in society.

In addition to his work in the armed services and corrections, Mr. Roldán worked as an insurance broker assisting individuals understand and navigate the difficulties of the insurance industry. He eventually opened his own general agency where he even assisted individuals over the radio.

One of Mayor Roldán's crowning achievements prior to his mayoral position was his assistance in Aguadilla's 2017 recovery efforts. In September of 2017 he carried out the distribution of more than 45,000 pounds of essential supplies to families and communities. After talking to and touring communities, Mr. Roldán announced his run for mayor in 2020.

I want to thank Mayor Roldán for his lifetime of hard work, and for his work the past four years for the people of Aguadilla. Furthermore, I want to honor the city of Aguadilla's 250th year and look forward to seeing their continued growth.

HONORING GINA MALONEY

HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2024

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Arizona's 8th Congressional District, it is my honor to recognize Gina Maloney, Chairwoman of Republican Legislative District 5. District 5 includes the eastern most part of the 8th Congressional District and a population of over 239,000.

Gina has worked tirelessly to educate, train, and inspire the next generation of citizens through civic engagement. Her efforts to work collaboratively with other leaders have been instrumental to the success of Republican elected officials and candidates in the state legislature and beyond.

I am thankful for her leadership and dedication to conservative principles. I sincerely appreciate her service to the legislative district and to the state of Arizona.

RECOGNIZING HONOR FLIGHT OF SOUTHERN OREGON

HON. CLIFF BENTZ

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2024

Mr. BENTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Korean, Vietnam, and WWII War Veterans from Oregon's Second Congressional District who are visiting their memorials on the Capitol Plaza through the efforts of Honor Flight of Oregon. When I have the opportunity to meet these heroes, I am reminded of the enduring words of President Ronald Reagan, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same." Our veterans embody this spirit, having fought valiantly in Korea, Vietnam, and WWII to preserve the freedoms we hold dear. Their courage and dedication remind us that the price of liberty is always worth paying. It is my privilege to include in the RECORD their names.

Veterans on this Honor Flight from Oregon are as follows: Kenneth Amburn, Jack Crockett, Jack Fitzgerald, Ronald Greene, Michael Grover, Roger Heegard, Ronald Hemphill, Gary Hoffman, Freddy Humble, Kevin Johnson, Wayne Kleckner, Richard Little Jr., Kenneth Marvin, Terry Moore, Gerald Newcomb, Terry Peariso, Ray Rose, David Schwab, Colben Keith Sime Jr., Jack war"Smith, Robert Stangier, Gregory Storey, Dale Vincent, Richard Vowell, William Wilde, Curtis Williams, David Young, Steven Eggert, Nathan Greene, Shasta Little, Kevin Pierson, Roy Starbeck, and Israel Wallace, Tyr Symank, Robert Symank. These heroes join over 260,000 Veterans who have been honored through the Honor Flight Network of volunteers nationwide since 2005.

Mr. Speaker, General Douglas MacArthur once said, "The soldier, above all other people, prays for peace, for he must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war." As a Nation, we must never take for granted the liberties we enjoy today, recognizing that these freedoms have been hard-won by the honor, commitment, and sacrifice of our Veterans. Each Member in this chamber and every citizen in these United States should be humbled by the courage of the brave Veterans who voluntarily faced danger and adversity to preserve our country and way of life. Colleagues, please join me in thanking these Veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their remarkable service and devotion to our great country.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PASADENA LIVESTOCK SHOW AND RODEO

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2024

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Pasadena Livestock Show and Rodeo, which is proudly held in Pasadena, Texas.

The Pasadena Rodeo began in 1949 to commemorate the city's farming and ranching roots as heavy industry began to replace farmland. Its founders' goal was to unite the growing city, offer opportunities for local youth, and illustrate how the business community, the cowboy, and rural lifestyles could come together in harmony. An important rodeo component was, and still is, promoting the values of being a cowgirl or cowboy: following through on one's commitments, setting goals, and achieving those goals both personally and professionally.

For 75 years, attending the Pasadena Livestock Show and Rodeo has been a tradition for many families and businesses across the region. It continues to exhibit and pay tribute to the community's deep ties to its agricultural history and rich cowboy culture. Its livestock show now includes the Deer Park, La Porte, League City, and Pasadena school districts, with 12 high schools participating and hundreds of students packing the Ag Barn and exhibition spaces to showcase animals and projects. It has also grown to include an annual livestock auction, parades, carnivals, fairs, barbeque competitions, and several other events for thousands of visitors to enjoy.