

stores. The DOE estimates that businesses using these appliances would save over \$11 billion in energy costs over the next 30 years—savings that would go back into local economies. I urged the Biden administration to finalize these rules last Congress, and I remain committed to protecting energy efficiency initiatives that reduce costs and pollution.

APPRECIATING MAJOR GENERAL
VAN MCCARTY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2025

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to Major General Van McCarty, the 29th Adjutant General of South Carolina, for his service to the state over the past six years as State Adjutant General.

Born in Saluda, South Carolina, MG McCarty attended The Citadel and went on to commission in the United States Army Reserves as a Field Artillery officer.

A veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, MG McCarty has over 36 years of service and commanded units at every level. Among his 36 years of service, 24 were spent in the Law Enforcement Division with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources.

Being a recipient of the Bronze Star Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal, MG McCarty has had an extensive military education and has been recognized for his dedication and service to the country.

Since 2019, MG McCarty has been a strong and stable force and has earned the respect of the Palmetto State. I value his dedication and commitment.

As we wish the best to MG McCarty upon his retirement, I am grateful to welcome Brigadier General Robin B. Stilwell, who will serve as the 30th Adjutant General for South Carolina.

A Greenville, South Carolina native, BG Stilwell also attended The Citadel and was commissioned as an Infantry Officer.

During his career, BG Stilwell deployed multiple times overseas, including tours in Afghanistan, Kuwait and Kosovo. He served as Deputy Chief of Staff-Forward for United States Army Central Command in Kuwait, and also commanded at every level to include serving as the commanding officer of the 678th Air Defense Artillery Brigade in Eastover, SC, and in the 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade in Charleston, SC.

South Carolina welcomes BG Robin Stilwell in his new position as Adjutant General, and I look forward to working with him throughout his tenure.

HONORING OPERATION TANGO
MIKE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Operation Tango Mike, a

nonprofit community effort that has provided unwavering support to our deployed military personnel and their families for over two decades. On the occasion of its 22nd anniversary, I am proud to recognize Operation Tango Mike for its dedicated service to those who serve our Nation.

Operation Tango Mike was founded in 2003, when Lake County residents Ginny Craven and Ron Quick sent a care package to Kyle Molencupp, who was then serving in Afghanistan. What began as a simple gesture of support has grown into a community-driven organization that has shipped more than 27,000 care packages to deployed personnel worldwide. Operation Tango Mike has supported service members through numerous military operations, including Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, Operation Onward Liberty, Operation Odyssey Lightning, Operation Inherent Resolve, and Operation Freedom's Sentinel.

In addition to its vital care package program, Operation Tango Mike coordinates the annual collection and distribution of Christmas gifts and school supplies for military families, providing comfort and relief during challenging times. The organization has also hosted welcome home celebrations and ceremonies for returning troops, ensuring they receive a heartfelt reception from their community. Moreover, Operation Tango Mike has assisted in honoring three of Lake County's fallen heroes in the Global War on Terror, preserving their memory with dignity and respect.

Mr. Speaker, on March 20, 2025, Operation Tango Mike marked 22 years of selfless service with its monthly packing party, a tradition that symbolizes the enduring gratitude and commitment of its volunteers and community. It is fitting and proper that we honor Operation Tango Mike for its dedication and contributions to our armed forces. Their unwavering support is a testament to the strength and generosity of the American spirit.

RECOGNIZING CHERYL CALIRE
FOR HER STEADFAST SERVICE
AND DEDICATION TO THE SAINT
GIANNA MOLLA PREGNANCY
OUTREACH CENTER

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2025

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the steadfast service and profound impact of Cheryl Calire, Director of Life Ministries for the Diocese of Buffalo. For 15 years, Cheryl provided guidance, leadership and service to the community as a strong voice and advocate for women, mothers and children—including the unborn. Since her announced retirement last year, she has continued to oversee the Saint Gianna Molla Pregnancy Outreach Centers and Mother Teresa Home in Western New York.

The Saint Gianna Molla Pregnancy Outreach Centers have a tangible impact on our community, providing important material, emotional, and spiritual support during and after pregnancy. This life-affirming work has saved lives, eased the transition into motherhood, and directly impacted over 1,500 families each year. Cheryl's continued leadership has im-

proved the lives and wellbeing of countless children, mothers and fathers across Western New York, and I am so grateful for her good work.

Life is a blessing, and as Cheryl Calire transitions into retirement, my family and I are so grateful to have witnessed her passion and dedication. We are all charged with leaving our community better than we found it, and Cheryl certainly has achieved that mission.

I ask this body to join me in recognizing Cheryl Calire for her commitment to life-affirming advocacy and service. On behalf of the United States Congress, and the constituents of the 23rd Congressional District, I thank Cheryl, and hope she enjoys her well-deserved retirement.

CHRISTENING OF THE USNS *BILLY
FRANK JR.*

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2025

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the christening of the USNS *Billy Frank Jr.*

Billy Frank Jr. was a proud member of the Nisqually Tribe and a dedicated leader on tribal treaty rights and environmental stewardship. He served as chair of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission for over 30 years, paved the way for the Boldt decision and was honored with numerous prestigious awards. In 2015, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest civilian honor.

I am grateful to have worked with Billy on habitat restoration for salmon and steelhead. Washington state's tribes and environment are stronger because of Billy's decades of advocacy and leadership.

Billy was also a veteran of the Marine Corps and served during the Korean War. It is fitting that a Navy ship will now bear his name. The USNS *Billy Frank Jr.* will offer salvage, rescue, ocean-going towing and other support capabilities for U.S. Navy fleet operations, while also supporting missions such as oil spill response, humanitarian assistance, wide-area search and surveillance.

On this momentous occasion I send my congratulations to the Frank family and the Nisqually Tribe. I look forward to once again honoring Billy later this year when his statue will be unveiled to represent the state of Washington in the U.S. Capitol's National Statuary Hall.

RECOGNIZING THE INSTALLATION
OF OFFICERS BANQUET FOR THE
OCCOQUAN-WOODBRIDGE-LORTON
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2025

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Annual Installation of Officers Banquet for the Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton Volunteer Fire Department and to honor the 2024 Awardees.

The 2025 officers and members of the board of directors are taking leadership roles in one of Northern Virginia's longest standing volunteer fire departments. The O.W.L. Volunteer Fire Department was born out of the need for organized fire response capabilities in the growing suburbs of Northern Virginia. In 1938, the Department officially formed to become the only fire department between Fredericksburg and Alexandria. In the subsequent decades O.W.L. has expanded to staff three stations and provide emergency medical services.

The members of O.W.L. are dedicated community volunteers, and the 2025 officers and directors will be diligent stewards of this tradition of service. The 148 active O.W.L. members answer thousands of calls and serve 95,000 people each year. Their job is demanding, and the hours are long, but they gladly serve for little more than the satisfaction of volunteerism and civic engagement. We would all do well to follow their example.

The 2025 Officers: President Todd Hewitt, Executive Vice President Susan Wessollock, Membership Secretary Stacey Godin, Treasurer Debra Haight, Sergeant at Arms Mark Bauer, Elections Officer Sabrina Brandon Ricks, Chief Wayne Haight, Assistant Chief Kurt Bolland, Assistant Chief Ernest DeSantis, Assistant Chief Ryan Williams, Assistant Chief of Rescue Sandra Williams, Fire Captain Steve Godin, EMS Captain Mike Yankaskas, Fire Lieutenant Peter Langone, Fire Lieutenant Jared Lawrence, EMS Lieutenant Andrea Bonilla, EMS Lieutenant Leo Greenwald.

Board of Directors: Frank Bruno, Mike Clark, Steve Godin, Dee Gottman, Dave Lukes, Stephanie Powers, Anna Smith, Cynthia Thackway

2024 Awardees: Betty Limerick Lifetime Service Award: Stacey Godin

Roger T. Furr Chief's Award: Malak Hassan Richard A. McAvoy Award for EMS Service Award: Leo Greenwald

John M. McGovern, Jr. Unsung Hero Award: Ernest DeSantis

Robert F. Arrington Administrative Member of the Year Award: Melaina Lewis

Fred M. Lynn Fire Crew Member of the Year Award: Daniel Collins

Bonita F. Joseph EMS Crew Member of the Year Award: Steven Ostrosky

New EMS Crew Member of The Year Award: Mitchell Connolly

James W. Ludwig Owllet Award: Austin Williams

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me to congratulate these remarkable volunteers for their continued work. The Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton Volunteer Fire Department is to be commended for the vital service it provides to the Prince William and Fairfax community.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT KURT DELONG

HON. VICTORIA SPARTZ

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2025

Mrs. SPARTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Kurt Delong of Westfield, Indiana who for his 25 years of service as a reserve officer to the Hamilton County Indiana

Sheriff's Department, where he has served with distinction. Lieutenant Delong had a very strong religious upbringing, while stating numerous times to his colleagues that he is a "Missionary disguised as a police officer."

During his time with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, Lieutenant Delong has obtained numerous awards, including being named "Reserve Deputy of the Year," "Sergeant of the Year," and "Lieutenant of the Year." Additionally, he was named a Pistol Expert, and "Life Saving Award" recipient.

Lieutenant Delong also served as a trainer for Hamilton County Sheriff's Office new Reserve Deputies, and he was a Board Member for the Community Foundation's "Christmas Express Volunteer and Shop for Kids" drive. Lieutenant Delong, in his 25 years of service, provided a strong foundation for safety, training, and growth for the citizens of Hamilton County.

Outside of his law enforcement duties, Lieutenant Delong operates a small landscaping business. Lieutenant Delong is an avid fan of both high school and college wrestling, and he loves boating and travelling.

While Lieutenant Delong will be retiring as a reserve officer on March 28, 2025, he will continue to serve the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office in a civilian capacity. My fellow Hoosiers and I appreciate Kurt's dedication and contribution to our community.

RECOGNIZING MARCH AS DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2025

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.

For nearly 40 years, Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month has been observed across the United States to recognize and highlight the achievements, challenges, and inclusion of people with developmental disabilities.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, developmental disabilities are defined as impairments in physical, learning, language, or behavior areas such as ADHD, autism spectrum disorder, cerebral palsy, vision impairment, and hearing loss, among many others. Developmental disabilities occur across all racial, ethnic, gender, educational, and socioeconomic groups. Today in the United States, around 1 in 6 children aged 3 through 17 have one or more developmental disabilities.

Developmental disabilities present differently in every person, and the difficulties an individual faces can vary significantly. There is no one-size-fits-all approach for supporting those with developmental disabilities, and we must recommit ourselves to gaining a better understanding of all developmental disabilities.

We have made significant progress as a nation in advancing the rights, inclusion, and participation of people with developmental disabilities, but challenges and barriers persist. We must continue to promote policies that improve resource accessibility, strengthen support networks, and increase public awareness.

I commend activists, families, caregivers, and organizations, like the Arc of Northern Virginia, for their efforts to ensure people with developmental disabilities have the care, resources, and opportunities necessary to lead productive and fulfilling lives. The tireless and selfless work they do makes it possible for those with developmental disabilities to reach their full potential. The mission is not just to make sure that individuals with developmental disabilities survive, it is to make sure that they are able to thrive.

Mr. Speaker, as we recognize March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, I urge my colleagues to join me in reaffirming our commitment to promoting accessibility, dignity, and equity for all Americans with developmental disabilities.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF LANDIS VALLEY VILLAGE & FARM MUSEUM

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2025

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate and recognize Landis Valley Village & Farm Museum for their 100th anniversary.

In 1925, brothers Henry and George Landis combined their collection of Pennsylvania German objects and antiques to found what would eventually become the Landis Valley Village and Farm Museum. The museum was formally incorporated in 1941. In 1953, the brothers donated the museum and property, the Landis' family farm, to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

As the largest Pennsylvania German museum in the country, Landis Valley holds over 100,000 historic artifacts, such as furniture, fraktur art, pottery and quilts, which date back to the early days of Pennsylvania German settlement. Over the years the museum has transformed into a living history exhibition, adding onto its collection many relocated and constructed historical buildings, historical breeds of animals and plants, and interactive presentations of traditional, Pennsylvania German life.

In what was originally a collection between two brothers, the passing century has transformed Landis Valley Village & Farm Museum into an educational community center for the surrounding area. As they celebrate one hundred years in serving the public, I am thankful that Pennsylvania's 11th Congressional District has such a wonderful organization keeping our community's heritage alive.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF ROBERT JENNINGS

HON. HILLARY J. SCHOLTEN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2025

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent, Robert Jennings, on his retirement from SpartanNash in Byron Center, Michigan. Mr. Jennings was an outstanding associate of SpartanNash, with