

and express fond wishes for joy and contentment in all future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING JACKSON ROGERS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jackson Rogers for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Jackson has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Jackson, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Jackson's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Jackson Rogers on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING K9 OFFICER ANDY MAYBO

HON. BURGESS OWENS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor K9 Officer Andy Maybo of the U.S. Capitol Police, whose tireless work has ensured that our fallen heroes are never forgotten.

For years, Officer Maybo has been at the heart of organizing the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service, coordinating with Congress, the U.S. Capitol Police, the Secret Service, and the U.S. Park Police.

His dedication has been particularly impactful for Utah's fallen officers, ensuring that their families were properly honored at this important event. In addition to his role in the memorial, Andy served as president of DC FOP Lodge 1 and contributed to several other lodge committees.

As Andy steps down from his role on the National FOP Memorial Committee this May, we owe him our deepest gratitude for his leadership and service. His unwavering commitment has made a lasting impact on the families of fallen officers across the nation.

I thank Officer Maybo for his years of service and dedication. May God bless him, and may God bless the United States of America

HONORING THE LEGACY AND DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVICE OF REYNAUD LAVARNCE WALLACE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy, and dedicated public service of Reynaud LaVarncce Wallace, a pillar of the Fresno community. Born on October 18, 1952,

in Montgomery, Alabama, Reynaud was the eldest of six children born to Carl Phillip and Ernestine Jackson Wallace.

In 1957, the Wallace family embarked on a journey westward, leaving Montgomery with their sons Reynaud and Rodney. The family eventually settled in the Nickerson Gardens Housing Project in Watts, Los Angeles, after stops in San Diego and San Francisco. There, young Reynaud earned the affectionate nickname "Silver", owing to a silver crown that adorned a chipped front tooth—an incident the precise details of which remain unconfirmed, as noted by his ever-loyal brother.

Following the tumult of the 1965 Watts Riots, the Wallace family relocated to Altadena, California, where Reynaud attended Eliot Junior High School and John Muir High School. A bright and energetic student, Reynaud immersed himself in both academic and extracurricular pursuits, most notably as a member of the John Muir Cadet Corps, the precursor to the school's ROTC program. He graduated in June 1970 and pursued his passion for justice and community service by studying Police Science in college.

In 1975, Reynaud married the love of his life, Deborah Ann Drayton. He went on to serve as Security Manager for Zody's Department Store in Pasadena and, in 1979, was entrusted with the leadership of the security team opening a new Zody's location in Fresno, California. It was in Fresno that the couple would welcome their daughter Jasmine in 1987.

Reynaud, or "Rey" as he came to be known, joined the Fresno Police Department in December 1981, beginning a storied and impactful career in public service that spanned nearly three decades. His legacy is perhaps best encapsulated in his founding of the Fresno Police Activities League (PAL) in 1992—an initiative that grew to include 30 programs and served more than 3,500 youth annually, helping to build trust and hope in the community he so dearly loved.

His accolades and achievements are too numerous to list in full, but among them are the Life Saving Medal of Valor (1985), Fresno Human Relations Commission Award (2003), NAACP Image Awards (1993 and 2005), African American Heritage Award (2008), and the Risk Taker and Dream Maker Award. He served as President of the Fresno Black Police Officers Association, was appointed to the California State Commission on Juvenile Justice, and offered his guidance at both the state and national levels of PAL.

Despite the seriousness of his work, Rey's personality left an indelible mark. Known affectionately as "Chocolate Thunder", he was a force of nature—compassionate, commanding, and charismatic—whose legend, like his nickname, was built on stories his brother, in good humor, will neither confirm nor deny.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in honoring the legacy of Reynaud LaVarncce Wallace who embodied the spirit of public service, community empowerment, and family devotion.

TOWN OF HILLIARD REMEMBERS OUR VIETNAM VETERANS

HON. AARON BEAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, President Calvin Coolidge once said, "The nation which forgets its defenders will be itself forgotten." His words perfectly encapsulate the importance of remembering our Vietnam War veterans.

I rise today with great honor to recognize the legacy and great sacrifice of our Vietnam War veterans through The Wall That Heals, which will be on display in Nassau County, Florida, from April 17th through April 21st at the Northeast Florida Fairgrounds.

The Wall That Heals is a half-scale replica of the permanent memorial in Washington, D.C., that stands six feet tall at the center and covers almost 300 feet from end to end.

The traveling exhibition will be a unique opportunity for individuals in our community, including the 26,900 Vietnam Veterans who call the Fourth Congressional District of Florida home, to see the names of their loved ones and comrades who otherwise may not be able to make the trip to Washington.

I would like to thank the Town of Hilliard, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10095, and all the volunteers who dedicated their time and effort to bring this distinct honor to Northeast Florida.

Mr. Speaker, we will never be able to repay our debt to those who have given their last measure of devotion for the spirit of America. But we can continue to do our duty: to remember. May the lives of those who served and were killed during the Vietnam War never be forgotten.

COMMEMORATING MR. DANA SKELTON ON HIS RETIREMENT AS FINE ARTS AND DISTRICT PROJECTS DIRECTOR FOR TERRELL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. LANCE GOODEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Mr. GOODEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable career of Dana Skelton, who retired in July 2024 after 42 years of dedicated service to the students and community of Terrell Independent School District.

Dana's legacy in Terrell ISD began in 1982 when he stepped into the role of Director of the Terrell High School Band. Under his leadership, the Tiger Band flourished, earning UIL Superior and Sweepstakes ratings, performing at Texas Stadium, and achieving excellence at the Texas State Solo & Ensemble Contest. Dana's commitment to building a strong, disciplined program transformed the band into one of the finest in the state, growing from just 68 members in the 1980s to 192 by 2000. His work helped instill values of perseverance, teamwork, and leadership in thousands of students.

In addition to his work with the band, Dana played a key role in expanding Terrell's fine

arts programs. In 2000, he became the district's Fine Arts & District Projects Director, where he helped design and build the Terrell ISD Performing Arts Center. Since its completion, the Performing Arts Center has become a home for artistic expression and a gathering place for students and residents alike.

Dana's influence extended far beyond the walls of the school. He worked tirelessly to ensure that the arts remained a vital part of the Terrell community, promoting a sense of pride and bringing people together through music, theater, and the performing arts. His leadership in securing funding for the Terrell ISD Excellence Foundation and organizing the E! Terrell Entertainment Series helped elevate Terrell's cultural landscape for years to come.

I extend my deepest gratitude to Dana Skelton for his decades of service, leadership, and unwavering dedication to the students and families of Terrell. His impact on the community will be felt for generations. I wish him and his wife, Sherry, all the best as they begin this next chapter of their lives.

RECOGNIZING JACKSON MINOR

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jackson Minor for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Jackson has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Jackson, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Jackson's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Jackson Minor on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

CELEBRATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF HEART'S DESIRE

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Heart's Desire in Frisco, Texas.

In 1995, Sherri Hale and Molly Hoebeke founded Heart's Desire, the first gift shop in Frisco. What started off as a hobby between friends has transformed into a very successful small business and a must-visit attraction for Frisco residents and tourists. From gourmet food, jewelry, handbags, to lake-themed gifts, Heart's Desire offers an incredible, diverse selection of goods and a warm, welcoming environment for visitors. When conceptualizing name ideas for the store, Sherri and Molly leaned on their faith for inspiration and ultimately settled on "Heart's Desire," a reference from Psalm 37:4, to encapsulate the feeling you get when you walk through their doors.

They attribute the business' success to their dedicated patrons and their hardworking staff. Now open for over three decades, visitors from all over the world have enjoyed the authentic and exceptional customer service experience in Heart's Desire.

For their incredible commitment to serving the needs of customers and the community, Heart's Desire has received the Best in DFW People's Choice Award for best gift shop and Frisco STYLE Magazine's Best of Business—Outstanding Experience Award. Moreover, it has been ranked as one of the top 10 best spots for shopping in Frisco by Local Profile of Collin County. I am pleased to recognize Heart's Desire's longtime contributions to North Texas, and I know it will remain a gem in our community for many years to come.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize this wonderful occasion. I wish Sherri, Molly, and the staff of Heart's Desire continued success.

RECOGNIZING MARGARET PETERSON

HON. BURGESS OWENS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Margaret Peterson, a dedicated public servant and respected leader in West Valley City.

Margaret served on the city council for 18 years, always putting families and students first. She is also the founder and Executive Director of the Community Education Partnership, a nonprofit that supports afterschool programs across the city.

Under her leadership, the program has reached over 15,000 students from 20 elementary schools, four junior highs, one high school, and several charter schools. It has helped improve academic outcomes, encouraged stronger attendance, and given students a safe place to grow.

In 2024, West Valley City honored Margaret with the "Essential Piece" award—a heartfelt recognition of her decades of service and the lives she's touched through education and community building.

Her example is one we should all aspire to.

HONORING MR. ROOSEVELT BROWN

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Roosevelt Brown, an outstanding member of our community who has served the youth in San Diego for more than 40 years.

Mr. Brown spent his formative years in the San Diego school system, attending Logan Elementary School, Memorial Junior High School, and San Diego High School. At a young age, Mr. Brown struggled with a speech impediment that hindered his academic progress. He feared being called on by teachers to read or speak aloud due to his stutter.

It is this limitation that inspired his community work.

Mr. Brown pursued several professional avenues following his high school graduation, and in his thirties, he decided to take classes at the University of Redlands and San Diego City College. These courses nurtured a newfound passion for reading. He decided to channel this passion into community work, with a goal to make sure children didn't have to wait as long as he did to discover the joys of reading. He knew that reading opened doors to learning and confidence.

Mr. Brown began his "Children's Book Party" in his backyard, aiming for every child to form a collection of books. The books covered a variety of subjects including math, science, short stories, and novels. His continued dedication expanded the program to the Education Cultural Complex and then the Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park. His book parties have come to fruition through the nonprofit he founded 35 years ago, "Reading Literacy Learning, Inc."

Mr. Brown's dedication to his nonprofit and community work has allowed him to overcome challenges throughout the years. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he still delivered books to schools. His efforts have proven fruitful as his nonprofit has distributed over a million books to children in the San Diego Community.

Mr. Brown's family has been heavily involved in his community work, with the support of his wife aiding in the success of his nonprofit, and his children recently taking over the operations of his book parties.

Mr. Brown was honored as the 52nd District Constituent of the Month in February 2025, when Black History Month was celebrated, for his dedication to providing learning opportunities to the youth of San Diego, which will undoubtedly impact generations to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on missed votes from April 8, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 91.

RECOGNIZING ISABELLA EKMAN

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Isabella Ekman for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Isabella has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Isabella, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Isabella's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Excel Academy and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.