

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

**HONORING BOBBY BEAGLES FOR
HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO CENTRAL FLORIDA**

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Bobby Beagles diligently served the agriculture community throughout his career. Agricultural issues were always better served with Bobby as an advocate at the county, state, and national levels.

As a cattle rancher, Bobby early on recognized that “what was good for all agriculture was good for his farm.” In effect, he embraced the idea that “all boats rise with the tide.” As such, he embarked on a path of agricultural advocacy. Whether it be at a local community meeting or hundreds of county board meetings, Bobby was a voice to be reckoned with. He was unrelenting and tireless in representing agriculture.

His legislative advocacy at all levels of government was never-ending. It was no surprise when Bobby was asked to be then-Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives Tom Feeney’s agricultural liaison. He carried that privilege and honor to Washington, D.C., when Speaker Feeney became Congressman Feeney.

Bobby’s heart was always about the youth—from the earliest days of buying animals at the county fair to timelessly encouraging auto dealerships and any number of businesses to purchase the kids’ market livestock project. On a not-to-be-ignored side note, at the request of then-Orange County Mayor Teresa Jacobs, Bobby was asked to rewrite the livestock section of the zoning laws. These laws today allow FFA and 4H to house some of their agriculture projects at home.

His work with the youth led to numerous awards from the local FFA chapters as well as the state and national associations. He was honored to be awarded the Honorary Florida State FFA Degree and the American FFA Degree. In addition to those accolades, he was inducted into the Florida 4-H Hall of Fame.

Bobby served as Orange County Farm Bureau executive director for 13 years. Prior to that, he was a board member for 17 years. His work in this capacity has made him “Mr. Agriculture” in our area of the state.

In 2007, Bobby received the prestigious Jefferson Award. This award is given to an individual who has devoted their life to exceptional public service in any arena. He was nominated for this award by then-Orange County Mayor Rich Crotty and Orange County Extension. This represented a body of work that included procuring \$12 million for the construction of a new extension office in Orange County.

This refrain is consistent with Bobby Beagles’ character. In 2002, Bobby was awarded the Friend of Extension Award from Epsilon Sigma Phi State. This award traditionally recognizes individuals who have been true Friends of Extension. A year after receiving the Jefferson Award, Bobby received the Florida Farm Bureau’s Distinguished Service

Award. The award honors Florida agriculturalists for their overall contributions to farming at the local or state level.

Bobby Beagles was married to Vickie Beagles and had a son, Thomas Beagles, a daughter, Rachel Kelly, and five grandchildren.

**VALUING TRUTH ‘FULLNESS’:
LESSONS FROM JURY TRIALS**

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reflect on the profound responsibility that accompanies public service.

As public officials across the country are sworn into office, each affirms a commitment to faithfully execute the duties of public office and defend the Constitution of the United States. But more and more Americans are losing faith that the actions of our public officials are principally guided by our Constitution and our laws. And some of my colleagues even doubt whether truth exists and whether government can operate on the basis of mutually agreed facts, such as who won an election.

Gregory Mize—a Georgetown University law professor and retired trial judge—offers a compelling perspective: we can use jury trials as models for attaining higher levels of truthfulness and reliable outcomes in government. After all, our whole justice system is based on the idea that we must all tell the truth and the fact-finder can decide “beyond a reasonable doubt” or “by preponderance of the evidence” what actually happened.

Thomas Jefferson said, “I consider trial by jury as the only anchor, yet ever imagined by man, by which a government can be held to the principles of its constitution.” Indeed, the way a courtroom pursues truth provides a blueprint for encouraging trustworthiness in our public servants.

At the beginning of jury selection, potential jurors take a solemn oath to truthfully answer questions posed by the judge and lawyers. The selected jurors take a second oath to “faithfully discharge the duties of a juror and a true verdict render according to the law and the evidence.” When testimony begins, jurors observe each witness take an oath under penalty of perjury to “tell the truth and nothing but the truth.” Judges, also sworn to follow the law, enforce rules of evidence—including by striking irrelevant or unreliable testimony from consideration by the jury. In some cases, judges must also pre-qualify proposed experts before they can state an opinion on a key issue. A lawyer’s questioning then further tests the reliability of those opinions. Thanks to these established procedures, jurors learn the court’s high valuation of honesty and come to expect it from their government.

Rather than relying on a single robed jurist to render a final verdict, our Founders wanted a panel of common citizens to administer justice in honest dialogue with one another. They believed jury deliberations to be a gold standard for reaching truth and achieving just ends.

After hearing evidence and receiving legal instructions from the judge, jurors enter a deliberation room. They test one another’s recollections and assumptions and assess witness credibility. Studies show that, during delibera-

tions, a jury polices itself. Individual jurors remind others of the obligations of their oaths and the requirements of the law as stated by the judge.

As a new year—with a new Congress and President—is underway, it is high time to bring courtroom reverence for truth-telling into the government generally and the public square. As citizens, we must demand a commitment to the pursuit of truth from all of our public officials. While enforcing oaths of office is a big challenge, citizens must demand truth from public officials in all that we do. And as public officials, we must earn that trust by honoring our oaths.

The work of Judge Gregory Mize is exemplary in calling America back to the bedrock quest for truth. We owe him a debt of gratitude.

**RECOGNIZING THE OLYMPUS HIGH
SCHOOL TITANS**

HON. BURGESS OWENS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Olympus High School Titans on winning the 5A Boys Basketball State Championship.

With a commanding 69 to 40 win over Highland High, the Titans capped off a season defined by discipline, grit, and teamwork. This championship reflects the hours of practice, the leadership of their coaches, and the drive of a team that refused to let up.

I also want to give a special shout-out to three players from the Millcreek area—Luke Owen, Jack Evan, and Malakai Philip—whose efforts on the court made a lasting impact.

Their hard work, and the hard work of the entire team, has brought pride to their school and to our entire community.

Congratulations again to the Titans on an outstanding season and a well-earned title.

**RECOGNIZING BELLEVUE HIGH
SCHOOL WINNING THE DIVISION
IV STATE GIRLS’ BASKETBALL**

HON. ROBERT E. LATTI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Mr. LATTI. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of pride that I rise to pay a very special tribute to an outstanding high school basketball team in Ohio’s Fifth Congressional District. The young women of the Bellevue High School girls’ basketball team have represented their school ably on their way to achieving the Division IV State Girls Basketball Title. In their effort to surpass all other teams in the Division IV State Basketball Playoffs, the Bellevue Redmen overcame the challenges posed by intense competition.

In pursuing the State Championship, the Bellevue Lady Redmen defeated the Kettering Archbishop Alter Knights to win their first state basketball championship. The members of this very special team have shown that their sport requires an individual effort for a team result. Their hard work and dedication, both on and

off the court, in achieving this accomplishment, is truly outstanding.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to the Bellevue High School girls' basketball team. On behalf of the people of the Fifth District of Ohio, I am proud to recognize this great achievement.

RECOGNIZING CRISTIAN GUILLEN-REYES

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cristian Guillen-Reyes for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Cristian 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 Cristian, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Cristian's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Everitt Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Cristian Guillen-Reyes on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF LUE N. YANG

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 of Mr. Lue N. Yang, an extraordinary advocate, organizer, teacher, and public figure.

Born on April 10, 1955, in Xieng Khouang, Laos, Mr. Yang has been a pillar for the Hmong community. At the age of 14, he served with the Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit (SGU) during Vietnam. After serving with the SGU, Mr. Yang moved to Vientiane to continue his education. Upon graduating, he became a Peace Officer for the US Embassy from 1972 to 1975. Shortly after, Mr. Yang fled to Thailand as many Hmong refugees did at the end of the Vietnam War.

A year later in Hawaii, he began to work with the non-profit: Vietnamese Indochinese Volunteer Agency (VIVA) and the Department of Labor as an agent. A few years later, Mr. Yang moved to Des Moines, Iowa and worked for Volunteer Enrichment Services. In 1991, he moved to Fresno and worked briefly with the Lao Family Community of Fresno.

In 1992, Mr. Yang began his work at the Fresno Center for New Americans, a local non-profit that serves the Southeast Asian Community. Later that year he served as the Executive Director for FCNA from 1992 to 2017. Under Mr. Yang's leadership, FCNA managed to grow fourteen programs with an annual budget of \$6.8 million and a team of 38. As an Executive Director, he was seen as a role model and mentor by many young Hmong professionals at FCNA, who continued

to push for progress for the Hmong community.

Furthermore, during Mr. Yang's tenure at FCNA he was able to establish several key sustainable programs. The Living Well was the first Hmong mental health program in the state that provided culturally competent mental health services. Mr. Yang also drafted an Adult Day Health Care program that provided essential support for senior community members. These two programs are still in operation today and are seen as the pillars of FCNA's work.

Mr. Yang has been an advocate for refugees and immigrants for 41 years. He has worked collaboratively with non-profits, community leaders, elected officials, and educational institutions to address the disparities, challenges, and stigma that the Southeast Asian communities face. Mr. Yang's work via his community partnerships and advocacy resulted in the hiring of the first Hmong detective in the Fresno Police Department, and Hmong representation in administration and other leadership positions within the Fresno Unified School District.

He was also instrumental in helping Hmong refugees who were attending school, manage their transition. Mr. Yang helped secure funding for a group that went to Wat Tham Krabok, Thailand, the location of the last recognized Hmong refugee group. After assessing different challenges unique to the Hmong refugee population, including access to education, the group published its findings to the City and County of Fresno, as well as the State Refugee Office. This was what culminated with the creation of the New American School, which assisted Hmong student refugees as they transitioned into mainstream school.

The work of Mr. Yang has given the Hmong community immense support over the years and without this work many of these accomplishments wouldn't have been possible.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in honoring the legacy of Lue N. Yang. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

HONORING 60 YEARS OF GRAPHICS UNIVERSAL OF GREENCASTLE, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Graphics Universal of Greencastle, Pennsylvania, for 60 years of success as a leading provider of diversified design and commercial printing services.

A family-owned business, Graphics Universal has distinguished itself with an inspiring corporate philosophy that was established by Gary and Nancy Gembe when they purchased the company in 1970.

That philosophy is based on treating clients as long-term partners, fostering a rewarding work experience for staff, adhering to the highest standards of integrity and maintaining respect for the environment. Gary and Nancy's son Garon Gembe proudly expands upon their legacy of achievement as Company President.

Effectively employing a relationship-centered approach with all stakeholders, the team at

Graphics Universal prides itself on a commitment to collaboration, open communication and trusted service.

On behalf of everyone in the 13th Congressional District, I congratulate the entire Gembe family on their company's milestone and offer best wishes for continued success.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MATTHEW FINKE

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and service of Mr. Matthew Logan Finke of Bells, Texas, who peacefully passed away on September 25, 2024.

Mr. Finke was born on July 27, 1987, in Denison, Texas. He attended Denison High School and graduated from Austin College in 2010 with a bachelor's degree in business, where he was a star athlete and captain of its football and baseball teams. In his outstanding football career, Mr. Finke was recognized numerous times as the All-Conference performer, Conference Player of the week, and the National Defensive Back of the week. He also earned the Shellie Hersch Special Teams Player of the Year and was named the Duke Babb Most Outstanding Player as a senior. Upon graduating, Mr. Finke heeded the call to serve his nation and joined the United States Army to serve as an Orthopedic Technician. In 2019, he deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Inherent Resolve as the Movement and Security Non-Commissioned Officer In-Charge.

Mr. Finke received a battlefield promotion for his contributions to the war effort against terrorist forces in this operation and also earned his Air Assault Badge, German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge in Gold, and Norwegian Ruck March Badge. Moreover, Mr. Finke won first place in the 13th Expeditionary Sustainment Command NCO of the Year Best Warrior Competition, out of a cadre of 6,000 soldiers. Outside of his Army duties, Mr. Finke was a devoted husband to his wife, Chelsey, and a father to three beautiful daughters. He was an uplifting leader who enjoyed playing football with kids in his neighborhood and his Army buddies. You could always count on Mr. Finke to be there and push you to be better than you were yesterday, both physically and mentally. His legacy of compassion, integrity, and friendship will always be remembered.

I have requested the United States flag be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize Mr. Finke's incredible life and service to our Nation. He will be dearly missed by his friends, family, and all who knew him.

RECOGNIZING UTAH GLOBAL PIZZA CHAMPIONS

HON. BURGESS OWENS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary team of hard-working Utahns who brought home a world