

his head. Danny then put the boy in the truck, cranked up the heat, and began rubbing his feet to warm them.

Danny immediately radioed the proper authorities to get this boy the medical care he desperately needed. With temperatures so low, the risk of catastrophe was imminent. Peculiar Police Chief Don Shepard, who was on the scene, said the boy "was near hypothermic and might well have died had Danny not found him."

Danny is an Army Veteran and having served in Iraq and Afghanistan, he is no stranger to perilous situations. And this specific situation was personal to him. "I've got grandkids about the same age, so it just hit pretty close to home. Serving the public is what we're here for; it is what we do. I hope anybody in that situation would have done the same thing," Mr. Wells said.

On behalf of the Fourth District, we thank Mr. Wells for his service to our Nation and the community of Peculiar. His actions make clear he has a servant's heart and takes his work seriously. We applaud his heroic actions to prevent a disaster on that January afternoon.

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HONORING CHAIRMAN ANTHONY ROBERTS

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Anthony Roberts, Chairman of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, as the California 4th District's 2025 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year for Yolo County. Chairman Roberts' unwavering commitment to sustainability, environmental stewardship, and community resilience has set a benchmark for climate initiatives within our district.

Chairman Roberts has been a part of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation's leadership since 2000, serving on the Tribal Council and as Treasurer from 2006 to 2018. His extensive service to the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation includes roles such as Chair of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Academy Board of Trustees, Vice Chair of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation Fire Commission, and membership on various committees, including the Young Adult Assistant Program, Facilities and Infrastructure, Health and Wellness, and Community Fund. In January 2018, he was elected Tribal Chairman, a role in which he has demonstrated exceptional dedication to both his Tribe and our broader community. Beyond his professional and community commitments, Chairman Roberts is also a devoted husband to his wife, Melissa, and a proud father to their children, Briana and Brayen.

Under Chairman Roberts' guidance, the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation has undertaken numerous environmental initiatives. Notably, he oversaw the development of an onsite microgrid to support critical Tribal services and enhance emergency response capabilities. Chairman Roberts also led the Tribe in instituting water conservation efforts, including implementing drip irrigation systems and wastewater recycling for both irrigation and plumbing purposes. Chairman Roberts has also championed wildfire mitigation strategies, such as cultural burnings, which reduces excess

vegetation, restores soil nutrients, and supports fire-resistant native plants. These efforts, along with fuel reduction projects, have helped lower wildfire risks. Chairman Roberts has also guided habitat restoration efforts, including the revitalization of oak woodlands and the establishment of native plant hedgerows on Tribal land.

Furthermore, Chairman Roberts has taken action to protect and manage the sacred lands of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation. He championed the creation of the Patwino Worrtla Kodoi Dihi Open Space Park, a 1,500-acre park featuring strains of blue and live oak trees, chaparral landscapes, and ridge views. The park's name, meaning "Southern Rock Home of the Patwin People," honors the significance of the land to the Patwin people native to this region. In 2024, Chairman Roberts also played a pivotal role in signing a co-stewardship agreement with the Bureau of Land Management, facilitating the inclusion of Molok Luyuk into the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument.

Beyond these initiatives, Chairman Roberts has supported youth and community education through the Student and Landowner Education and Watershed Stewardship (SLEW) Program and events at Yocha Dehe Wintun Academy. He has also led the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation to increase its philanthropic giving towards regional environmental and educational organizations, with the Tribe contributing to the Cache Creek Conservancy, Yolo Creek and Community Partnership, the Center for Land-Based Learning, and Robinson Rancheria Environmental Center. Chairman Roberts also actively contributes to the wider Yolo County community as a member of the Yolo County Fair Board, a position to which he was appointed in 2012 by Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, Chairman Anthony Roberts has led the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation to become a regional and national model for climate action and environmental justice, balancing tradition with innovation for the benefit of future generations. It is both fitting and proper that we honor him today as Yolo County's 2025 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year.

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HONORING THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF WASHTENAW COUNTY'S PROJECT RED

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2025*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Washtenaw County's Rural Education Days (Project RED) on the occasion of its 35th year educating Washtenaw County's youth. In its 35 years, Project RED has taught 80,522 students, teachers, and chaperones about the importance of agriculture and natural resources.

In 1990, an enthusiastic group of members of the Washtenaw County Farm Bureau Promotion and Education Committee saw a need to educate the county's children about the value of farming and the protection of Michigan's natural resources. Since its inaugural year, Project RED has grown to a 3-day annual event held in April for students, teachers,

and chaperones. The event is sponsored and coordinated by passionate volunteers at Washtenaw County Farm Bureau, Michigan State University Extension, the Washtenaw County Conservation District, and the Washtenaw Farm Council.

Project RED provides fun, interactive opportunities for students to develop a better understanding of and appreciation for the many ways that farmers grow and produce safe food, care for their animals, and protect the environment. Students have the opportunity to engage with informative displays and hands-on learning stations that highlight Michigan's agrarian diversity.

Washtenaw County's Project RED has become a model for similar programs and events across the state of Michigan as a way to educate youth about agriculture and celebrate the contribution of local farmers and agribusiness.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Washtenaw County Rural Education Days for providing over 3 decades of invaluable agricultural education. I sincerely thank the project's sponsors and organizers for their many years of service to this community.

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HONORING THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

**HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2025*

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exceptional work of the officers of the Prince William County Police Department in the recent arrest of a top MS-13 leader in Virginia's Seventh District.

Their relentless dedication to public safety and professionalism in the face of danger has not only made our communities safer but has also set a shining example of the effectiveness of law enforcement in confronting the serious threat posed by violent criminal organizations.

MS-13 is known for its brutal crimes, including drug trafficking, extortion, human trafficking, and violence that threatens communities in the Seventh District and across our country. Their reach and impact are deeply concerning, and the work of our law enforcement agencies to dismantle their operations is of utmost importance.

This particular arrest was the result of months of careful investigation, intelligence gathering, and coordination between local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. The operation carried out by the Prince William County Police Department and their partners is a testament to the hard work, expertise, and unwavering commitment of law enforcement professionals who put their lives on the line every day to protect our families. Today's success is not only a victory for law enforcement but a significant win for public safety across Virginia's Seventh District and beyond.

As a former prosecutor, I know how critical it is to support law enforcement in their efforts to combat violent crime and ensure the safety of our communities. This is why I have consistently advocated for bipartisan legislation that equips law enforcement with the necessary tools and resources to do their jobs effectively. The urgency to get violent criminals

off our streets is exactly why I will continue to champion policies that prioritize public safety and law enforcement.

It is because of the bravery and hard work of the Prince William County Police Department and their partners that Virginia's Seventh District—and our entire Nation—is safer today. Their commitment to keeping our neighborhoods safe is a model we should all be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Prince William County Police Department for their exceptional service and commitment to ensuring the safety of our communities. Their bravery and professionalism deserve our deepest recognition and thanks.

CELEBRATING WJBC FOR 100  
YEARS OF SERVICE TO CENTRAL  
ILLINOIS

**HON. DARIN LAHOOD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2025*

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to congratulate WJBC as they reach a monumental milestone. For 100 years, WJBC has been the voice of McLean County. The hosts have dedicated themselves to providing residents of Central Illinois with timely and reliable news to keep the public informed.

Local radio station's are more important than ever. They bring a unique, personal, and powerful form of communication to their audience. WJBC serves as a bridge between communities, providing a unique space where local stories, issues, and voices can be heard.

WJBC has welcomed Presidents, governors, politicians, celebrities, and local voices to keep us informed about public events and connect our community.

The station has been home to legendary on-air personalities, including Don Newberg, Don Munson, Steve Vogel, Ken Behrens, Dick Luedke, Scott Laughlin, and current morning host Scott Miller, who have all enriched the lives of listeners and made significant contributions to the communities and organizations across Central Illinois.

This is a monumental moment for WJBC, and I congratulate them on their 100 years of success. I look forward to listening to WJBC for many more years to come.

HONORING JUSTINA SALINAS

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Justina Salinas, whom I have named the California 4th District's 2025 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year for Solano County in recognition of her visionary leadership in regenerative agriculture, habitat restoration, and environmental advocacy.

Born in Sacramento, California, Ms. Salinas graduated from the American School of London and earned her bachelor's degree from Santa Clara University, where she majored in both E-commerce and Studio Art, with additional minors in Entrepreneurship and Retail

Management. Inspired by her grandparents who immigrated to California from Guanajuato, Mexico, in the 1960s and worked in the fields with a profound respect for nature, Ms. Salinas founded Araceli Farms in 2017, a small lavender farm in Dixon.

What began as a family-run venture evolved into a model of environmental restoration for all. Ms. Salinas has transformed her farm into a thriving native grassland meadow, prioritizing regenerative agriculture practices including soil health restoration, dry farming, biodiversity conservation, no till farming, integrated rotational grazing, natural pest management, and native plant reintegration. Her farm has become a haven for the native species of our Solano County, with blue belly lizards, egrets, herons, red-tailed hawks, barn owls, and other species all thriving on the property. By intentionally choosing not to disturb the soil, Ms. Salinas has fostered a living, nutrient-rich environment that has become a sanctuary for wildlife and a beacon of sustainable land stewardship.

Ms. Salinas views farming as an act of healing. Her practices reflect a commitment to ethical farming, water conservation, and environmental justice, embodying a new model of agriculture that harmonizes production with ecological renewal. Ms. Salinas also acknowledges the privilege of her access to land. She has made it a mission for Araceli Farms to serve as a space for reflection, learning, and community connection, fostering opportunities for young people and aspiring farmers to engage with the natural world.

Beyond her farm, Ms. Salinas is an active member of the Community Alliance with Family Farmers (CAFF) Policy Committee and the California Native Plant Society. She volunteers with organizations like the Research Conservation District, participates in native plant restoration projects, and has lent her voice to lobbying efforts in Sacramento, advocating for regenerative agriculture and sustainable food systems to leaders at the California State Capital. Additionally, Ms. Salinas donates gift baskets to schools, hospitals, and animal rescues, cares for the elderly, supports underprivileged youth, and regularly participates in trash cleanups in our community.

Mr. Speaker, Justina Salinas reminds us that farming is more than a profession, rather a relationship with the land and a call to stewardship. Her resilience, kindness, and unwavering dedication to ecological justice make her a powerful role model in Solano County and beyond. For these reasons and more, it is fitting and proper that we recognize her today as Solano County's 2025 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year.

PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL  
AMVETS AUXILIARY PRESIDENT  
CINDY RICE

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2025*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I have the honor of representing Ohio's 9th Congressional District, a region known for its patriotic spirit, strong civic institutions, and deep respect for those who have served our Nation in uniform. Today, I am privileged to recognize a

distinguished leader and devoted advocate from our community—Cindy Rice, National President of the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary.

Whereas, Cindy Rice, a lifelong resident of Ohio and a dedicated advocate for veterans and their families, was elected National President of the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary in August 2024, bringing with her decades of service, compassion, and unwavering commitment to the AMVETS mission; and

Whereas, Cindy Rice's journey of service began in 1984 when she joined AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Post 22 in Vermilion, Ohio, becoming a life member in 1999, and since then, has risen through the ranks of leadership at the local, district, state, and national levels, including serving as Department President of Ohio in 2015; and

Whereas, Madam President has held numerous distinguished national positions, including National Historian, National Hospital Chair, National Honors and Awards Chair, and Vice President at all levels, as well as two terms as National Sergeant of Arms—roles in which she exemplified leadership, humility, and heartfelt service; and

Whereas, her steadfast volunteerism, including at the Sandusky Ohio Veterans Home, and her continued leadership as President of Ohio AMVETS Charities and Secretary of her local Auxiliary, reflect her deep and abiding dedication to the well-being of our veterans and their families; and

Whereas, Cindy Rice has played an instrumental role in raising funds and awareness for vital causes such as PAWS With a Cause, the John Tracy Center, St. Jude Children's Hospital, Founding Forward, and the AMVETS Scholarship Program, all while promoting the core values of the Auxiliary and strengthening the AMVETS family across the country; and

Whereas, during her presidency, Cindy has chosen the "AMVETS Diabetes Research Center" at Ohio University as her national project, dedicating this year of service to veterans, Auxiliary members, and family affected by diabetes, with the belief that Together We Can work toward a cure for this devastating disease; and

Whereas, Cindy Rice's eligibility for AMVETS stems from her proud lineage of service—her father, a World War II Army Veteran, and her husband, Roger, a U.S. Navy Veteran—and is further honored by two nephews currently serving in the U.S. Marine Corps; and

Whereas, with 48 years of experience in the field of dentistry, Cindy continues to serve her community even in retirement, offering her time and skills where needed and bringing the same care and diligence to her professional life as she has to her AMVETS mission; and

Whereas, Cindy Rice has traveled extensively throughout the United States to visit AMVETS Departments and Auxiliaries, sharing her message, promoting her project, and uplifting all with her inspiring theme—Together We Can;

Now, therefore, I, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, proudly recognize and commend Cindy Rice, National President of the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary, for her outstanding service, leadership, and unwavering dedication to our veterans and their families. May her legacy of compassion, advocacy, and tireless commitment continue to inspire current and future generations of Auxiliary members across the nation.