

GVSU is a pillar of our community. Year after year, their commitment to academic excellence and innovation has led generations of students to reach their full potential. With a dedication to fostering global understanding, GVSU has always known the importance of offering students opportunities that extend beyond our borders, and they have worked tirelessly to connect their students with experiences that broaden their global understanding. This is why their partnership with the Krakow University of Economics is so meaningful—a true testament to their mission.

This partnership began in 1975, at a time when the United States and Poland shared more differences than they did similarities. Still, they came together with a mission to educate, building a strong connection based on mutual respect and a shared goal of helping students grow through global learning. Over the course of 50 years, their partnership has helped foster not only academic excellence, but cultural exchange and understanding between our two nations. As our world becomes more interconnected than ever, this partnership continues to serve as a shining example of what can be achieved when we come together to learn and grow from each other.

On behalf of Michigan's Third Congressional District, congratulations to those at both Grand Valley State University and the Krakow University of Economics who have maintained this collaboration over the years. This partnership has touched the lives of countless students, faculty, and communities across the globe. Today and every day, we thank both institutions for their lasting impact on the communities they serve.

#### RECOGNIZING PARVIN AHMADI

#### HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the outstanding contributions of Parvin Ahmadi, a lifelong educator whose 36 years of service in public education have profoundly shaped the lives of students, families, and educators across California.

Parvin Ahmadi began her career as a classroom teacher in San Jose before taking on administrative roles in Fremont and ultimately serving as Superintendent of the Castro Valley Unified School District for the past decade. Her unwavering belief that “nothing you do for children is ever wasted” has guided her leadership and inspired a generation of educators to pursue equity, access, and excellence in every classroom.

Over the course of her distinguished career, Superintendent Ahmadi has served as a teacher, principal, director, assistant superintendent, and superintendent—holding the latter position for 15 years. Throughout her journey, she has built inclusive learning environments by collaborating with school boards and communities to ensure that every student has the opportunity to thrive.

Superintendent Ahmadi holds a bachelor's degree from San Jose State University, a master's in teaching from Chicago, and a master's in educational leadership from Saint

Mary's College of California. She also earned a School Management Certificate from UCLA.

In addition to her district leadership, Parvin Ahmadi has made a lasting impact at the state level. As President of the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA), she represented more than 18,000 administrators serving six million students. She continues her advocacy as Past President, mentoring new superintendents through ACSA's professional development academies. In 2019, she was named Senate District 10 Woman of the Year by Senator Bob Wieckowski and also contributed her expertise as a member of Assemblymember Anthony Rendon's State Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood.

It is my honor to recognize Parvin Ahmadi for her decades of service, leadership, and enduring impact on public education. Her legacy is one of integrity, dedication, and a deep commitment to the belief that every child deserves a champion. We thank her for her remarkable career and wish her continued success in all her future endeavors.

#### RECOGNIZING TOHICKON MIDDLE SCHOOL'S HONORING THE LEGACY OF VETERANS FROM BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AND THE USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62)

#### HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound respect and admiration that I rise today to recognize the extraordinary efforts of the students from Tohickon Middle School, part of the Central Bucks School District, in Bucks County Pennsylvania, who have demonstrated exceptional civic commitment through their participation in the Central Bucks Veterans Recognition Project, the Library of Congress Veterans History Project, and the United States Navy Memorial Student Interview Program.

These students embody the very best of American youth—curious, compassionate, and committed to preserving the legacy of those who have selflessly served our Nation. Through countless hours spent interviewing and documenting the personal histories of our Veterans, they have become stewards of memory, ensuring that the voices of our heroes are not lost to time but instead honored and heard by future generations.

For over a decade, students from Tohickon Middle School, Lenape Middle School, Central Bucks High School East, and Central Bucks High School West have gone above and beyond the classroom. After school hours, they have dedicated themselves to capturing the lived experiences of local Veterans—contributions that now form part of a national archive of living history. These stories, rich with courage, sacrifice, and resilience, serve not only as a tribute to those who served but also as a powerful educational resource for all Americans.

Today, I especially commend the Tohickon Middle School History Corps, led with vision and dedication by Dr. Fash, Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Girardi, Mr. Neely, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Pakstis. Under their guidance, students have conducted interviews with Veterans from every

branch of the Armed Forces, spanning from World War II to the present day. Many of these Veterans had never before shared their stories on record. By capturing these memories, the students have created an irreplaceable bridge between generations—one that deepens our collective understanding of service, sacrifice, and patriotism.

One particularly moving example of their work took place during the reunion of over 100 Veterans from the *USS New Jersey*, the most decorated battleship in U.S. Navy history. Invited to document this historic gathering, the students traveled to the ship to interview its crew members—many of whom were returning to their vessel for the first time in decades. From September through May, the students meticulously crafted short documentaries that not only chronicled the Veterans' experiences but also honored their enduring legacy.

These documentaries were presented on May 22, 2025, at the United States Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C., before an audience that included *USS New Jersey* Veterans, retired military personnel, and leadership from both the Navy Memorial and the Library of Congress Veterans History Project. This moment was not only a celebration of the Veterans' service but also a testament to the students' remarkable ability to preserve and elevate the stories that define our national character.

Mr. Speaker, the work of these students is more than an academic exercise—it is a profound act of remembrance and gratitude. Their efforts remind us that history is not merely written in textbooks but lives in the hearts and voices of those who lived it. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending these young historians for their dedication, their empathy, and their unwavering respect for those who have worn their uniform of the United States of America.

I include in the RECORD the following who have documented the Service Memories of Veterans and their families from Bucks County, Pennsylvania:

Dr. Matthew Fash  
Mr. James Neely  
Mrs. Bridget Fox  
Mrs. Amanda Girardi  
Mr. Marcus Smith  
Mr. William Pakstis  
Paige Badiali  
Lucy Cavallo  
Zoey Gabriel  
Jack Gabriel  
Sanjana Kishore  
Whitaker Leyland  
Surina Manojkumar  
Ella Menard  
Chisom Oraedu  
Charlotte Raynor  
Thea Ritenbaugh-Martinez  
Jette Rodriguez  
Madeline Sawarynski  
Nihitha Vadicharla  
Timothy Wojciechowski

#### RECOGNIZING AMELIA BROWN

#### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

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

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

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

HONORING KATE MILLER

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kate Miller, the Executive Director of the Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTa). After 12 years of service at NVTa, Ms. Miller is retiring, ending her 30 year career in transportation and leaving behind a lasting impact on our Napa County community and the broader Bay Area.

Born and raised in the Bay Area, Ms. Miller earned a Bachelor of Arts in U.S. and International Studies from the University of Washington and a Master's in Public Administration, Urban Studies, and Transportation from San Francisco State University. She began her career in transportation in 2000 at the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, where she worked as a Senior Planner before moving to AC Transit as the Manager of Capital Development, Legislation, and Grants. In 2012, she became Executive Director of NVTa.

Ms. Miller's leadership at NVTa has resulted in significant improvements to our Napa County's transportation infrastructure. She led the passage of Measure U, a sales tax expected to generate \$1.2 billion over 30 years for local streets and road projects. Under her direction, NVTa completed the \$56 million Soscol Junction Interchange, reducing traffic congestion and improving mobility. She also played a key role in expanding the Napa Valley Vine Trail, securing funding, and guiding its construction from Napa to Yountville and from Calistoga to St. Helena.

Ms. Miller oversaw the operations of Vine Transit, which serves over 600,000 passengers annually and connects Napa County to Vallejo Ferry, Amtrak, and BART. During the 2017 Tubbs Fire, Vine Transit worked with emergency services to evacuate residents and visitors while maintaining limited bus service, earning NVTa and its partners the Bay Area Metro (Grand) Award from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission in 2019. The agency later provided similar emergency response efforts during the 2020 Glass Fire. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Vine Transit also played a critical role by delivering meals to shelters and isolation sites, transporting high-risk individuals to quarantine facilities, assisting emergency staff, and ensuring access to testing and vaccination sites for those without transportation.

Beyond our Napa Valley community, Ms. Miller has been a key voice in statewide transportation policy. She served as Chair of the Bay Area Partnership Board at the Metropoli-

tan Transportation Commission and was appointed to the California Transit Transformation Task Force, where she worked on long-term funding solutions and operational improvements for public transit. Ms. Miller is also a well-respected mentor, collaborator, and advocate for sustainable transportation. Known for her ability to bring together local governments, agencies, and private partners, she has strengthened Napa's position in regional and statewide transportation planning.

Outside of her professional life, Ms. Miller is a dedicated family member and friend. She has been married to her husband, Greg, for 21 years and is a devoted aunt to her nieces and nephew Ashley, Natalie, and Wesley. A proud Napa resident, Ms. Miller is an cyclist and enjoys spending time with friends, sharing meals, and walking her dog, Lilly, through the streets of Browns Valley.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Miller's leadership has improved transportation infrastructure, expanded transit services, and advanced sustainability efforts in our Napa Valley and beyond. It is fitting and proper that we recognize her contributions here today.

RECOGNIZING PRICILLA CRUZ-SEADO

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Pricilla Cruz-Seado has made to our community through her work with New Beginnings Youth Shelter, which serves homeless kids aged 10 to 17 who are between foster homes, abandoned, or homeless. The whole team jumps in to take care of the kids that have no one else looking out for them. They teach kids structure, respect, understanding and so much more in a loving environment. The team really cares, and each member is deeply invested in the kids' long-term success.

It is clear Pricilla Cruz-Seado has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

HONORING SUNAYANA DUMALA FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO CENTRAL FLORIDA DURING ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Sunayana Dumala is an Indian immigrant who moved to the United States in 2007 to pursue her master's degree, hopeful about building a new future and achieving the American Dream.

While working as a data integration engineer in Olathe, Kansas, her life was tragically altered on February 22, 2017, when her husband, Srinivas Kuchibhotla, was murdered in a hate crime that shocked the Nation. In the face of unimaginable loss, Sunayana chose to

rise with purpose. She emerged as a leading advocate for immigrants, founding the Forever Welcome Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to supporting immigrant and refugee communities through advocacy, education, and programs that foster unity and bridge diverse communities.

Through Forever Welcome, Sunayana leads dialogue workshops that create space for understanding and connection between immigrants and non-immigrants, and runs a family support program that provides emergency assistance to refugee and low-income immigrant families.

Her advocacy has extended to national platforms. She has worked with Immigration Voice to advance policy solutions for high-skilled immigrants and participated in campaigns like Spread AAPI Love by Stop AAPI Hate.

She has also been featured in national documentaries, including PBS's "Healing Hate" and ABC's "Divided States: Olathe," which highlight her journey and the broader fight against hate. Sunayana's work has earned her honors, including the Heart Award by Med Ad News, the Peace Award from the Crescent Peace Society, and the Humanitarian Award from the Olathe Human Relations Commission.

Apart from focusing on her foundation, since relocating to Lake Nona, Florida, in 2022, Ms. Dumala has been actively involved with Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Coming Together (ACT), a nonprofit organization dedicated to civic engagement and community empowerment. Through her work with ACT, she is helping increase civic engagement and voter awareness across Central Florida.

Sunayana's story is especially remarkable considering that when tragedy struck, she had no immediate family in America, was not born here and was still learning the nuances of American culture. In the face of devastating loss, she had a choice: to turn away from the country that had become her home, or to stay and fight against hate.

Her journey is a testament to resilience, compassion, and a deep commitment to building a country where everyone has a place to belong.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HMONG EXODUS

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of the Hmong Exodus, the mass displacement and migration of Hmong people from Laos to the United States beginning in 1975.

The Hmong people originated in North Central Asia before migrating to Southeast Asia to settle in Laos. Despite achieving independence from French colonial rule in 1954, their relations to foreign powers remained complex, particularly during the Vietnam War. From 1961 and 1975, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), employed a secret army of Hmong soldiers led by General Vang Pao to assist U.S. war efforts during the Vietnam War era. Known as the Special Guerrilla Unit (SGU), they fought in the "Secret War," often against insurmountable odds, to stop the spread of