

who is deeply committed to ensuring that students have access to high-quality educational opportunities.

Mr. Hooper has served as a teacher, basketball coach, reading program facilitator, Job Training Partnership/General Education Diploma Supervisor, high school graduation coach, assistant principal, and principal, accumulating 21 years of administrative experience.

He was named Teacher of the Year at Hazlehurst Elementary School in 1999. As a basketball coach, he led teams to championships in both Vicksburg and Port Gibson. Mr. Hooper has also played a key role in helping William Winans Middle School and Natchez Freshman Academy exit School Improvement Status.

A God-fearing and family-oriented individual, Mr. Hooper is a proud parent of a son and a daughter and remains very active in the Natchez community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Larry Hooper for his outstanding service and achievements in the Natchez, Claiborne, and Wilkinson County communities of Mississippi.

HONORING CINTHYA CISNEROS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cinthya Cisneros, a leader and public servant who has been named California's 4th Congressional District 2025 American Dream Award Recipient for Napa County. This award recognizes the achievements of immigrants in our district who have made remarkable contributions to our communities in the areas of Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, or Community Service.

Ms. Cisneros was born in Michoacan, Mexico, as the oldest of three siblings and has grown up in Napa since the age of four. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Sonoma State University and holds a Single Subject Teaching Credential from Sacramento State University.

Ms. Cisneros began her career in 2018 working as a bartender shortly after finishing her last year of teaching high school chemistry. In 2020, she founded La Cheve Bakery and Brews, a family-owned Mexican bakery, craft beer taproom, and restaurant. She is also the owner of the upcoming restaurant Con Amor Botanas y Tequila, co-founder of La Lucha Wines, and advisory board member of the nonprofit scholarship organization 10,000 degrees.

Ms. Cisneros and La Cheve regularly give back to our community. Since its founding, La Cheve has provided scholarships for undocumented, Latino, and low-income, first-generation college students in the science and business field. La Cheve has also supported our community through fundraising efforts for organizations such as: If Given a Chance, Migrant Farmworkers, LGBTQ Connection, Puertas Abiertas, COPE, NEWS, Napa Valley Education Foundation, Red Cross, Molly's Angels, IIBA, Mariposa, Napa High School, Vintage High School, Valley Oak High School, Napa United, and Girls on the Run.

Ms. Cisneros has always dreamed of helping her parents, who she notes as being her biggest role models. At La Cheve, she works alongside them. For her work, Ms. Cisneros was recognized as this year's American Dream Award Recipient in Napa County.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting and proper that we honor Cinthya Cisneros for her service and dedication to California's 4th District.

RECOGNIZING ANUSHA ARORA FOR SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE

HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2025

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Anusha Arora on being the Gold Medal recipient at the Washington State Science and Engineering Fair for her project titled "Smart Strings: A Novel Low-Cost Multimodal System for Intelligent Sensory Feedback through Artificial Intelligence." The Washington State Science and Engineering Fair aims to advance the studies of STEM in grades 1–12 through the State of Washington. They work to provide opportunities for students to display their projects and provide support and guidance for the operation of science and engineering fairs throughout Washington State.

Additionally, Anusha had the opportunity to represent Washington State at the 2025 Regeneration International Science and Engineering Fair. For more than 70 years, thousands of students from various science fair networks have explored their passion for scientific research at the world's largest pre-college science competition. Students from more than 75 countries, regions and territories competed across 21 different STEM disciplines. This year, Anusha competed among the top young scientists from around the globe and was selected as a Grand Award Winner in the category of "Technology Enhances the Arts." Anusha Arora attends Interlake High School in Washington's 1st Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Anusha Arora and this victory for science education in Washington. Her work demonstrates not only exceptional scientific excellence, but a deep commitment to addressing real world challenges. We are grateful for her contributions to the scientific community and wish her a successful career.

CELEBRATING MOTHER REGINA ROSE EDWARDS

HON. LISA C. MCCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2025

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary woman whose life of faith, service, and leadership has left a lasting impact on her community and the Church.

Mother Regina Rose Edwards, who is celebrating 90 blessed years, is a native of River Rouge, Michigan. She has dedicated her life in service to her Church and community and has raised a proud family.

Throughout our Nation's history, we have always been inspired by those whose faith and

unwavering commitment uplifts others. Mother Regina Rose Edwards goes beyond these criteria.

For decades, Mother Edwards has embodied compassion, wisdom, and dedication in her role as matriarch within the Church of God in Christ and as a beloved member of the Michigan Southwest First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

Her ministry has brought comfort and community to countless families. Through prayer, mentorship, and love, she has been a guiding light to many.

As she celebrates her 90th birthday, I wanted to take an opportunity to recognize her faith, service, and lifetime of commitment to her community.

Mr. Speaker, the legacy of Mother Regina Rose Edwards is one of service over self. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and celebrating her remarkable achievements and contributions to our Nation, her community, and the Church.

HONORING ST. HELENA HIGH SCHOOL AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 25th anniversary of the St. Helena High School Agricultural Program, an esteemed organization of our Napa community. This milestone reflects decades of dedication, community support, and profound impact on students' futures. This program is more than just an educational opportunity; it is a cornerstone of the community.

The Agriculture Program at St. Helena High School aims to shape young minds, nurture responsible leaders, and prepare students for successful careers in agriculture and beyond. This program not only fosters practical skills and knowledge but also instills values such as stewardship, leadership, and community service in our students.

The St. Helena Agriculture Program has touched the lives of over 3,500+ students in the St. Helena community through positive experiences in relevant, rigorous, and relationship driven coursework and involvement in the National Future Farmers of America Organization. These opportunities have been made possible by the financial backing of the St. Helena Agriculture Booster Organization.

The Ag Boosters have supported state-of-the-art facilities improvements, curriculum development and equipment, student travel, student leadership conference participation, supervised agricultural experience participation, and making sure that all students can take advantage of what the Future Farmers of America and Agriculture Education have to offer.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting and proper that we honor the St. Helena High School Agricultural Program on the 25th anniversary of their founding. Through their advocacy, leadership, and commitment to excellence, they have become a cornerstone of our Napa County's agricultural community.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

SPEECH OF

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment to the Fiscal Year 2026 Defense Appropriations Act, which provides \$10 million to support testing of tethered unmanned aircraft system prototypes.

Tethered drones, which are physically connected to a ground-based power source, offer critical protection against cyberattacks—an increasingly important safeguard given rising threats from adversaries like China and North Korea.

My amendment 275, included in Bipartisan En Bloc No. 2, provides the Army with the necessary resources to procure and test tethered drones.

Tethered drone testing could lead to further innovation and advance the Army's mission capabilities.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

HONORING DONALD DWIGHT

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2025

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and mourn the passing of Mr. Donald R. Dwight of Holyoke, Massachusetts. Mr. Dwight was a Marine, newspaper executive, and dedicated public servant. Born in Massachusetts, he attended Deerfield Academy and Princeton before serving as an active-duty Marine, where he earned the rank of captain. A man dedicated to his country, Mr. Dwight held multiple public offices, including serving as the 64th Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts. As Lieutenant Governor, he worked behind the scenes to serve his state and always stood up for what he felt was right.

After leaving public office, Mr. Dwight led newspapers in Minneapolis and New England and was responsible for printing seven separate publications. He was dedicated to local, independent journalism and never hesitated to follow a difficult story.

Outside of his public life, Mr. Dwight was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. To those who knew him, he was endlessly curious, and never afraid to try new things. He always knew how to ask the right questions and was driven by unflinching dedication to the common good. The mark he left on his community, state, and country will never be forgotten, and for that, we are forever grateful.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

SPEECH OF

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment to the Fiscal Year 2026 De-

fense Appropriations Act, which provides \$7.5 million to support continued research of conductive pigments and coatings in batteries.

Advancing battery technology is essential to providing our military with longer-lasting, more reliable energy sources. Better battery technology will also benefit the American people through broader energy innovation.

My amendment No. 274, included in Bipartisan En Bloc No. 7, continues the Navy's work to research and test conductive pigments and coatings for batteries. This research will help in building towards eventual wide-scale production.

Continued research on innovative battery coatings will heighten military readiness, improve energy efficiency, and benefit the American people.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

HONORING ANDRES OLMEDO

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Andres Olmedo, a leader and public servant who has been named California's 4th Congressional District 2025 American Dream Award Recipient for Yolo County. This award recognizes the achievements of immigrants in our district who have made remarkable contributions to our communities in the areas of Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, or Community Service.

Mr. Olmedo was born in Jcoteppec, Jalisco, Mexico to Andres and Concha Olmedo. Mr. Olmedo and his wife Carolina are the proud parents of Andrés, Alexis Andrea, and Johan Adrian, and the proud grandparents of Nicholas. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and a master's degree in Sports Science and Recreation.

In 1998, Mr. Olmedo started his teaching career instructing elementary, middle, and high school students in the Woodland Joint Unified District. Since then, he has served as an AP World Language Teacher, Girls Varsity Head Soccer Coach, and Boys Junior Varsity Soccer Coach at Woodland High School. He is also the founder and head coach of Woodland Community College Soccer and serves as a college advisor for Davis Legacy Soccer Club.

Mr. Olmedo has led his various soccer teams to local, regional, and state championships. He has helped countless student-athletes receive soccer scholarships to schools like UCLA and Stanford. Even more impressive, his World Language students have more than a 90 percent pass rate on their AP Exam. Under Mr. Olmedo's leadership, 9 out of every 10 of his students earns a high enough score on this very rigorous test that qualifies them for college credit.

Around our district, Mr. Olmedo is known for his constant mentorship and dedication to his students and players. He is always looking for ways to help students and athletes alike reach their goals, whatever they may be. For his work, Mr. Olmedo was recognized as this year's American Dream Award for Yolo county.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting and proper that we honor Andres Olmedo for his service, leadership, and dedication to California's Fourth District.

HONORING WORLD WAR II HERO
BUD LOMELL**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2025

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor one of the bravest and most highly decorated combat soldiers of World War II—Leonard G. "Bud" Lomell—by naming the new Veterans outpatient clinic in Toms River, New Jersey in his honor.

While Bud Lomell passed away in 2011, at age 91, his dear wife Charlotte is turning 104 in September; she and her family deeply loved Bud and continue to deeply cherish his memory. I spoke to Bud's youngest daughter Renee on the phone this morning and they are very pleased that Congress is poised to honor him.

I also want to extend special thanks to former Toms River Mayor and retired Admiral Mo Hill for originally coming up with this idea to name the clinic for Bud Lomell, as well as, his incredible advocacy on behalf of Bud and his family.

On June 6, 1944, D-Day, First Sergeant Bud Lomell of D Company, 2nd Ranger Infantry Battalion, and his Army Rangers were tasked with the nearly impossible mission of scaling the 100-foot cliffs at Pointe du Hoc and to destroy the Germans' 155-millimeter artillery guns with a range of 10 to 15 miles that threatened the entire allied invasion, which they believed were positioned at the top of the cliffs.

Bud Lomell and his Rangers, upon successfully climbing the cliffs despite heavy casualties—Bud was actually wounded leaving the landing craft but tenaciously continued and said in one interview, "I lost half my guys"—were dismayed to find at the top of the cliffs, that Allied military intelligence was misled by decoys, and that the entire invasion was now at risk.

After forming patrols to search for the guns, First Sergeant Lomell and another Ranger, Sergeant Jack Kuhn, found the five guns camouflaged in a nearby orchard. He discovered they were all aimed at Utah Beach, but could reach Normandy as well. With Kuhn providing cover, Bud Lomell used thermite grenades to singlehandedly destroy three of the Nazi big artillery guns, got more thermite grenades and went back and destroyed the other two, five massive artillery guns destroyed, ultimately helping to ensure the success of the Allied invasion and saving countless lives.

Historian Stephen Ambrose has described Bud Lomell as the single individual, besides Allied Supreme Commander Dwight Eisenhower, who was most responsible for the success of the D-Day invasion.

In his book, *The Greatest Generation*, Tom Brokaw devoted an entire chapter to Bud Lomell, who he first met forty years after the invasion at D-Day. He noted that during their interview, even after several decades, he "could almost see the tough, young First