

when he first won five primaries, and subsequently garnered 6.9 million votes. This transformed American politics, inspiring discouraged Americans to believe in the possibility of a multiracial democracy and helping to expand participation within the Democratic Party. His call to “Keep Hope Alive!” was more than a slogan—it was a moral charge to the Nation and a testament to his belief that love and collective action can bend the arc of history toward justice.

For more than six decades, Reverend Jackson served as both bridge and trailblazer, connecting the civil rights movement of the 1960s to the ongoing struggle for a more inclusive democracy in the 21st century. He marched, organized, led boycotts, negotiated, and preached on behalf of those too often marginalized or ignored, always affirming, “I am somebody.” He mentored and was a friend to many, including me.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Jesse Jackson was a fearless advocate for love and justice whose voice stirred our conscience and challenged our Nation to live up to its highest ideals. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his extraordinary life and legacy, and in recommitting ourselves to the future of a Beloved Community that he so faithfully envisioned.

HONORING THE 2025 U.S. PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS FROM PUERTO RICO

HON. PABLO JOSÉ HERNÁNDEZ

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2026

Mr. HERNÁNDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend the outstanding achievements of three students from Puerto Rico who have been selected as 2025 U.S. Presidential Scholars. This prestigious honor, announced on September 26, 2025, by U.S. Secretary of Education, Linda McMahon, recognizes only 161 high school seniors nationwide for their accomplishments in academics, the arts, and career and technical education.

It is with great pride that I acknowledge and include in the RECORD the following Presidential Scholars from Puerto Rico:

Lucas J. Mendoza, Dorado—Tasis School in Dorado

Anna Cristina Sgroi Morillo, Carolina—Robinson School

Nicolás Antonio Unanue, San Juan—St. John's School

These students exemplify the highest standards of scholarship, leadership, and service. Their recognition as Presidential Scholars is not only a testament to their academic excellence but also a reflection of their dedication, resilience, and the support of their families, teachers, and communities.

The future of Puerto Rico and of our Nation is strengthened by the promise of young leaders such as Lucas, Anna Cristina, and Nicolás. I am proud to honor their achievements and may their success serve as an inspiration to others.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF OFFICER JOSEPH ADRAGNA, III

HON. CRAIG A. GOLDMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2026

Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Officer Joseph Adragna, III, who passed away on January 31, 2026, while serving on duty as an officer with the Westover Hills Police Department. Officer Adragna was a devoted husband, loving father, proud veteran, and steadfast public servant. His life reflected the highest ideals of duty, honor, and sacrifice.

Joseph Adragna was a patriot who answered the call to serve his Nation by entering the United States Air Force in 1999. Later, he was honorably discharged as a decorated Aircrew Life Support Journeyman and was recognized as the 2000 Air Mobility Command Outstanding Aircrew Life Support Airman of the Year—an achievement that spoke to his professionalism, discipline, and commitment to excellence.

Following his military service, Adragna continued his dedication to public safety with the Los Angeles Police Department, graduating with the Sworn Officer Class of 2003. Over the course of 22 years, he served with distinction in patrol, vice, undercover operations, and traffic collision investigation. He pursued advanced training, including United States Secret Service Counterterrorism certification and the Jimmy Ryce Law Enforcement Training through the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.

Even after completing a distinguished career with the Los Angeles Police Department, Adragna chose to continue serving his community as a member of the Westover Hills Police Department. Though his tenure in Fort Worth was brief, his experience, integrity, and leadership left an enduring impression on his fellow officers and the community.

Beyond his uniform, Adragna was a man of deep faith, strong character, and abiding love for his family. I extend my deepest condolences to his devoted wife, Tara Adragna, and his beloved daughter, Marissa Adragna.

On behalf of the 12th Congressional District of Texas, I wish to honor the life and service of Joseph Adragna, III. His life stands as a testament to courage, conviction, and selfless dedication.

RECOGNIZING DEBBIE LECROY

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2026

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Officer Debbie LeCroy upon her retirement from the Asheville Police Department, following twenty years of distinguished, honorable service to the people of Western North Carolina.

Officer LeCroy began her career in law enforcement with the APD, answering the call to protect and serve her community with integrity and courage. She later continued her service with the Buncombe County Sheriff's Office before returning to Asheville to complete her ca-

reer where it first began. Showing testament to her deep-rooted commitment to her hometown and the people she proudly served.

Throughout her career, Officer LeCroy distinguished herself in a wide array of critical roles, including Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, Detective, Forensics Investigator, and Community Resource Officer. She also served as a member of the Peer Support Team, Crisis Negotiation Team, and Long-Term Drug Investigations Unit. In each assignment, Officer LeCroy demonstrated exceptional professionalism, steady leadership, and an unwavering dedication to justice and public safety. Her versatility and willingness to serve reflects a career defined by excellence and selflessness.

Officer LeCroy is perhaps best known throughout the community as the handler of therapy K-9 Kora. Together, they provided comfort and reassurance to citizens during times of crisis, tragedy, and hardship. Through their work in schools and community events, Officer LeCroy and Kora strengthened trust between law enforcement and the public, offering compassion in moments when it was needed most. Their partnership stands as a powerful example of how service and empathy can foster relationships and healing.

Over the course two decades, Officer LeCroy has mentored fellow officers, supported colleagues through challenging circumstances, and helped shape programs that will continue to benefit the community for years to come. Her legacy is one of dedication, integrity, and service above self.

Today, we honor Officer Debbie LeCroy not only for her years of faithful service, but for the lasting impact she has made on the lives of countless individuals across Western North Carolina. On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I extend my deepest gratitude to and I congratulate Officer LeCroy and wish her every success and fulfillment in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING THE WORLD MUSEUM OF MINING IN BUTTE, MONTANA IN CELEBRATION OF AMERICA'S 250TH

HON. RYAN K. ZINKE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2026

Mr. ZINKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 250th year since our Nation's founding by recognizing the legacy of the World Museum of Mining in Butte, Montana.

The World Museum of Mining has been in operation since 1956 and is one of the world's only museums that sits on a former mine. For seven decades, it has preserved and shared the remarkable story of Butte's mining heritage, offering visitors an immersive experience into the lives of the men and women who shaped the American West.

The museum brings history to life with exhibits that put visitors in the shoes of miners during the late 19th and early 20th-century mining boom. This includes exploring “Hell Roarin’ Gulch,” a replica town from the 1890s when Butte was known as the “richest hill on earth.” Guests can step into shops and saloons of the era before heading underground to experience the realities of a miner's daily work.

On the underground tour, you descend 100 feet into the Orphan Girl Mine, a cornerstone of Butte's mining legacy. Established in 1875, the mine eventually reached 3,200 feet and produced silver, lead, and zinc that powered America's industrial rise. During the Copper Boom, Butte became the largest city between Chicago and San Francisco and one of the world's most important mining centers, representing half of all copper mined in America and a quarter of the world's copper. That copper wired cities, energized factories, and connected the Nation through telegraph and telephone lines. Decades of mining fueled the U.S. war effort in both World Wars, supplying the munitions, equipment, and power that helped secure victory from tyranny and fascism. Walking through the tunnels, it is impossible not to reflect on the generations of workers who built this backbone of industry and defense.

Like the town it belongs to, the World Museum of Mining has a long and rich history. In 2024, the museum became the official home of the Montana Mining Hall of Fame, further cementing its role in honoring the industry's legacy and protecting the artifacts and structures of an area that featured nearly 10,000 miles of tunnels.

Mr. Speaker, on the 250th anniversary of the United States, it is important to look back at our country's history and the people who built it. The World Museum of Mining has preserved the stories of America's biggest strength: hardworking people willing to risk everything in the pursuit of opportunity and freedom.

TRIBUTE TO REBECCA
DELGADILLO EVANS

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2026

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Rebecca Delgadillo Evans, a remarkable public servant whose distinguished career reflects the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, and dedication to the administration of justice in the United States.

For more than sixteen years, Rebecca Evans served with distinction at the United States Attorney's Office in Riverside, California, where she became a cornerstone of the office's daily operations and long-term success. Her work as a Senior Legal Assistant and Grand Jury Coordinator exemplifies quiet excellence—service rendered not for recognition, but for the betterment of our institutions and the communities they serve.

Throughout her career, Rebecca earned the trust and respect of Assistant United States Attorneys, judges, law enforcement partners, and colleagues alike. She was known for her precision, discretion, and unwavering commitment to accuracy in the most demanding and high-stakes federal litigation matters. Her expertise in federal court filings, sealed pleadings, trial preparation, and discovery management ensured that justice was not only pursued, but pursued correctly.

Rebecca's role as Grand Jury Coordinator was especially vital. She oversaw all grand

jury proceedings with professionalism and calm authority, maintaining complex schedules, coordinating witnesses and jurors, and ensuring that each proceeding was conducted efficiently and lawfully. Her ability to manage sensitive information with care and integrity made her indispensable to the administration of justice in the Central District of California.

Beyond her technical expertise, Rebecca was a leader. She mentored newly hired legal assistants, filled supervisory roles when needed, and consistently stepped forward to ensure continuity of operations during times of transition. Her steady presence brought confidence to those around her and stability to an office charged with weighty responsibility.

What sets Rebecca apart is not only what she did, but how she did it—with grace, humility, and a genuine commitment to public service. She understood that the work of the U.S. Attorney's Office is not merely procedural, but foundational to the rule of law and the protection of our democratic institutions. Her career is a testament to the often-unseen professionals whose diligence ensures that our justice system functions honorably and effectively.

Outside of her professional duties, Rebecca has remained deeply committed to her community, volunteering with the City of Corona and exemplifying the spirit of service that has defined her life's work. She is a proud graduate of Eastern Michigan University, where she laid the academic foundation for a career marked by excellence and purpose.

Mr. Speaker, it has been my privilege to know Rebecca Evans not only as a public servant, but as a person of character, kindness, and unwavering dedication. Her legacy is one of service well rendered and standards faithfully upheld. As she concludes this chapter of her professional journey, our community, our courts, and our country are better because of her contributions.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Rebecca Delgadillo Evans for her extraordinary service to the United States and to the cause of justice.

RECOGNIZING THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GULF WAR AND LIBERATION OF KUWAIT

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2026

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize the 35th anniversary of the Gulf War and liberation of Kuwait.

Each year, a ceremony to commemorate this anniversary is held at the Arizona Heroes Memorial in Oro Valley.

While I cannot join in person this year, I would like to take this time to honor those who served in our armed forces in the Gulf War and fought to bring peace to the nation of Kuwait.

I thank each veteran who served in these operations. Their dedication to our Nation and the fight for peace is remembered every day and will never be taken for granted.

It is because of men and women like themselves that we are able to live in a free country.

We know that freedom is not free. Our freedom has been fought for by countless men and women who have answered the call.

I thank every veteran who served in the Gulf War, including Desert Storm, or the liberation of Kuwait for their fearless and selfless decision to fight so that freedom may reign.

I thank each man and woman who lost their life fighting in these operations for their love of country and willingness to lay it all on the line to keep our Nation safe. They paid the ultimate price, and their sacrifice will not be forgotten.

Saying "thank you" is nowhere near sufficient, but these two words are our best attempt at expressing our utmost gratitude for their heroic acts in service to our Nation.

HONORING MRS. TERRY LEIN FOR
ALMOST 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2026

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mrs. Terry Lein, a proud constituent of Woodbridge, Virginia, as she retires from the United States Navy after 29 years of extraordinary service in the Navy Nurse Corps.

Mrs. Lein built a remarkable career rooted in both compassion and dedication. She earned a bachelor's degree in Zoology/Animal Biology, followed by master's degrees in nursing and business administration, an academic foundation that would prepare her to lead and care for our communities. Her commitment to service was inspired early on by her father, who served in the Navy during the Korean War.

In 1996, she began serving as an Operating Room nurse, where she managed patient care in support of combat operations, humanitarian assistance, and disaster relief efforts.

Throughout her nearly three decades of service, Mrs. Lein was stationed across the world, including assignments in Italy, Iceland, Japan, and Alaska.

When Hurricane Katrina hit, she was the Nurse Officer in charge, leading a unit of nurses during one of our Nation's most challenging moments, making sure patients received the consistent care they needed and deserved.

Recognized for her exemplary service, she earned the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (NMCCOM) and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement (NMCAM), both of which are a testament to her superior performance and meritorious service.

Although she has retired from the line of duty, Mrs. Lein's service to others continues. She now serves as Nurse Manager at the Bitar Cosmetic Surgery Institute, where she oversees clinical operations, supports nursing staff, and ensures patients receive the highest standard of safe, quality care.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mrs. Lein on her well-earned retirement and thanking her for almost three decades of service to our Nation.