

shared her pride in Persian culture and traditions, helping us all learn more about this special part of the world. Like so many who had the privilege of working with Asal, I appreciated her presence and her commitment to public service. Because of her hard work and dedication, Indiana's 7th Congressional District is a better and stronger community.

Asal was a fighter. She faced her unexpected cancer diagnosis with courage, strength, and creativity. Some people might have been afraid to try experimental treatments, but not Asal. She researched them, pursued them, and kept her village of friends and supporters updated on how things were going, and how we could help her with her battle. Even in her most difficult moments, she embraced resilience, which inspired everyone around her. But her legacy extends far beyond her personal battle. She dedicated her life to fighting for others, especially those navigating some of life's most difficult journeys.

As President Biden's Senior Advisor on Health Outcomes and Cancer for the Cancer Moonshot Initiative, Asal helped lead a national effort to reduce cancer deaths and improve the lives of patients and their families. She was deeply committed to uplifting the work of scientists and doctors to advance early detection, address health disparities in cancer research, screening, and treatment, and push forward research to one day end cancer as we know it.

Asal was a passionate and powerful voice within the cancer community, raising awareness about early-stage colon cancer, advocating for younger and underserved populations, and ensuring that no one facing this disease felt alone. Through her work with national colorectal cancer organizations and as co-founder of Colorectal Cancer Change (CRCC), she empowered patients, educated families, and built a legacy of advocacy that will continue to shape lives for years to come.

Her service also spanned nearly a decade as Director of Government Affairs at amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research, where she championed expansion and improvements in HIV/AIDS research.

In honoring Asal's legacy, we must also carry forward the mission she championed. Today, colorectal cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related deaths among men under 50 and the second leading cause among women under 50, a deeply concerning reality that demands urgent action. Early detection saves lives, yet far too many are diagnosed at later stages, especially younger Americans.

That is why I urge my colleagues to continue investing in lifesaving medical research, to fully fund cancer initiatives like the Cancer Moonshot, and to expand access to early screening and preventive care. This is how we honor Asal—not only in words, but through our actions, our policies, and by our votes to fully fund lifesaving research and health services.

To know Asal was to know compassion, brilliance, and purpose. She touched countless lives, including my own, not only through her extraordinary professional accomplishments, but through her warmth and kindness. Today, we mourn her loss, but we also celebrate her amazing life defined by service and love.

My thoughts and prayers are with her family, her friends, and all who are grieving this loss. May they find comfort in the legacy she leaves behind, and in knowing that her work and voice will continue to inspire generations to come.

May her memory be a blessing.

RECOGNIZING EVELYN LUNA
AVALOS

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Evelyn Luna Avalos for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

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

It is my honor to congratulate Evelyn Luna Avalos on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING THE 25 YEARS OF
SERVICE BY ANNUNCIATION MA-
TERNITY HOME

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 25 years of service by Annunciation Maternity Home, an extraordinary ministry dedicated to affirming the dignity of every human life by caring for both mother and child during and after pregnancies.

Since opening in Georgetown in 2001, Annunciation Maternity Home has become a vital pillar of support in the community, providing stability, compassion, and opportunities to mothers and babies in need. Through its comprehensive services, the organization offers safe housing and basic needs assistance for up to two years following the birth of a child, tailoring care to each mother's unique circumstances. Rooted in a deep commitment to the sanctity of life, the organization provides not only a safe home, but also the spiritual, emotional, and material support necessary for mothers to choose life and flourish alongside their children.

Through a faith-driven, holistic approach, Annunciation walks with mothers every step of the way, offering housing, access to prenatal and postnatal care, counseling, life skills training, and opportunities for education and employment. Their work reflects a profound belief that caring for a child begins with caring for the mother, equipping women with the stability and confidence needed to build strong, loving families. As it marks this remarkable milestone, Annunciation Maternity Home continues to broaden its reach through the addition of new residential homes, a community center, and expanded childcare services, extending hope and opportunity to even more families in Central Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing their extraordinary contributions

and steadfast commitment to uplifting mothers and children, strengthening families, and enriching the entire community with compassion and dignity.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast votes on April 27, 2026. Had I been present for Roll Call votes, I would have voted aye on: Roll Call No. 138, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 7959, IRS Whistleblower Program Improvement Act, and Roll Call No. 139, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 227, Clergy Act.

RECOGNIZING IRA ARORA

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ira Arora for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

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

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

RECOGNIZING JOHN LAUGHTER ON
HIS RETIREMENT

HON. NIKEMA WILLIAMS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mr. John Laughter on his retirement from Delta Air Lines after more than three decades of distinguished service.

Over the course of 32 years, John has built a remarkable record of leadership and service that has left a lasting mark on one of our Nation's leading airlines and on the thousands of employees he has guided and inspired.

John began his career at Delta TechOps as an aircraft liaison engineer. From those early days, he steadily rose through the ranks, leading teams through some of the most challenging and exciting periods in the company's history. He helped rebuild the airline following Delta's emergence from Chapter 11, playing a critical role in restoring the strength and reliability of the airline's operations. He also steered the integration of Delta and Northwest

Airlines that enabled a successful merger, significantly expanding Delta's domestic and international footprint. This strategic unification not only broadened Delta's route network across the United States but also strengthened its global reach—connecting more communities and offering enhanced travel options to customers worldwide.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, John led Delta's operational response at a moment of unprecedented uncertainty. Under enormous pressure, he helped maintain safe, secure, and reliable service, preserving an essential part of our national transportation infrastructure and supporting countless workers and communities that depend on air travel.

Under John's leadership, Delta's TechOps Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul business has bolstered the airline's resilience and competitiveness. Today, the MRO business stands as a significant source of revenue for Delta, providing maintenance services to other airlines around the world and setting Delta apart from its peers through its scale, technical expertise, and industry-leading reliability. By leveraging its world-class MRO capabilities, Delta has not only strengthened its own operations but also established itself as a trusted partner in the global aviation community.

John has also been a tireless champion of safety, helping establish Delta's safety management system and insisting on the accountability and culture necessary to keep employees and customers safe. Navigating an increasing changing threat environment and global events, he ensured Delta remains focused on the security of our people, our customers, and our operations.

At the same time, he has leaned into innovation and the passenger experience, guaranteeing our customers the latest in security technology, as well as providing a seamless and secure travel experience from curb to gate.

In every role he has held, John championed operational excellence. He inspired Delta's people to take pride in delivering a safe, clean, and on-time operation that customers could trust to connect them to the people and places that matter most. But colleagues will tell you that his greatest legacy is not only the systems he built, but the people he supported. John has been known throughout his career as a servant leader and a steadfast advocate for Delta's people-focused culture. He has always understood that operational excellence flows from great people who are cared for, respected, and inspired to be at their best. His deep, personal connection with frontline teams has been central to his leadership and to the success of Delta Air Lines.

Mr. Speaker, John Laughter's last day at Delta will be April 30. As he begins his next chapter, he looks forward to spending more time with his family, especially his first grandson. On behalf of my constituents and this body, I offer him our sincere gratitude for his decades of service, and our best wishes for a long, healthy, and fulfilling retirement.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. John Laughter on his well-earned retirement and in recognizing his vast contributions to the people and customers of Delta Air Lines and to the broader aviation community.

RECOGNIZING THE HIGH PLAINS HONOR FLIGHT

HON. GABE EVANS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Mr. EVANS of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate our Nation's brave men and women and to recognize the High Plains Honor Flight Network, which conducts trips for veterans to Washington, D.C., to tour the monuments built to honor their bravery and service. The High Plains Honor Flight gave some of our fellow brave men and women the chance to visit our Nation's capital. As a fellow veteran myself, I am pleased to honor the High Plains Honor Flight and to recognize the Korean War, Vietnam War, Cold War, and Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans of Colorado who took part in it.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the veterans who participated in this flight:

Veterans of the Korean War: Alan Latta, and Richard Miller.

Veterans of the Vietnam War: Lloyd Adams, William Alexander, Ronald Alper, David Appel, Duane Baggs, Raymond Begin, Randall Black, Neil Borchert, Clarence Bowen, David Boyle, Robert Boyle, Jack Branson, William Brewster, Sr., Samuel Brito, Gary Camp, Donald Carroll, Robert Casey, Stephen Conway, Steven Cornelius, Robert Derick, Dennis Dicampoli, Jerold Douthit, Earl Draayer, Lane Edstrom, Paul Erickson, James Farmer, Harold Felderman, Robert Forsythe, David Furusho, James Futterer, Terry Gaber, Gilbert Garcia, James Garcia, Gary Gillett, Roger Goodman, Gregory Hall, Donald Hamilton, Jack Hampton, Sherrie Hansen, Gordon Harden, Howard Hawk, Dan Helmboldt, Douglas Henning, Lu Herin, Michael Herin, Charles Hlebain, Donald Hockhalter, Albert Hromada, Jr., Reese Hull, Kevin Hunt, Max Johnson, Jerry Keenan, Ferdinand Krawczuk, Dennis Kugler, Gregory Kuhn, Roger Lair, Lonnie Leininger, Larry LeSueur, Charles Mack, Richard Madsen, William Maurice, Kenneth McNaught, Rives Meerscheidt, Joseph Miceli, Robert Miller, Jack Miller, II, Edwin Miner, Donald Moore, Harley Morgan, Rodney Murrish, Richard Nelson, Ronald Nereson, Frederick Nickel, Roy Nitschke, David Ocker, Bruce Ohmstede, Larry Paul, Alex Peralta, Danny Pickett, Richard Pingel, Frederick Pollmann, Samuel Potts, Donald Purcell, Richard Quimby, Robert Reichardt, Charles Reid, Randall Richardson, Donald Ritterbusch, Jr., Samuel Rodriguez, Joseph Rogers, III, Joe Sandoval, Eugene Schiferl, Alton Sheek, Larry Simons, Howard Smith, Roy Smith, Gary Soderquist, Dennis Spencer, Roger Spencer, Lyle Stempke, Jimmy Sudduth, Richard Thiem, Gerald Toczek, Robert Torson, Kirt Trujillo, Jeffery Uscier, Lee Walz, David Wangler, Mark Wangler, and David Wilson.

Veterans of the Cold War: Donald Cope, Donnie Kennedy, Irvin Nelson, Richard Rector, John Scarlett, Wayne Scott, and Paul Thomas.

Veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom: Hugo Sanchezolmos.

It is my honor and privilege as a veteran and the United States Representative of the 8th District of Colorado to recognize the sacrifice and service of these men and women and all other members of our Nation's military. I thank them for their bravery and service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING IVAN RANGEL

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ivan Rangel for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

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

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

RECOGNIZING ADAM BUELL ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's 5th Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Adam Buell of Pandora, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Adam's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2030. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of his life. Adam brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2030. While attending Pandora-Gilboa High School, he participated in National Honor Society, Quiz Bowl, and Big Brothers Big Sisters, and was on the honor roll. Throughout high school, Adam was involved in cross country, basketball, and track and field, earning his varsity letter in all three. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Adam Buell on his offer of appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Adam will excel during his career at the Military Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.