

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING COMMANDER JOHN
JAMES BATTISTI

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 31, 2026

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Commander John James Battisti for his 20 years of outstanding Naval service as an active-duty judge advocate. During the past three years, Commander Battisti has served as the Deputy Director of Legislation and Policy for the Department of the Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs, where he was responsible for managing all aspects of the Navy's participation in the National Defense Authorization Act legislative process. Prior to this assignment, he served as the principal Legal Advisor to the Director of the Navy Staff, where he was responsible for the legal oversight of all initiatives generated by Navy commands throughout the world for decision by either the Secretary of the Navy or Chief of Naval Operations.

Commander Battisti began his distinguished career with the Department of the Navy as a defense counsel at Naval Legal Service Office, Mid Atlantic. His assignments included serving as Assistant Fleet Judge Advocate to Commander, U.S. Seventh Fleet aboard USS *Blue Ridge* (LCC-19); Assistant Officer-in-Charge of Naval Legal Service Office Pearl Harbor; Assistant Fleet Judge Advocate to Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet; Branch Head within the Office of the Judge Advocate General's Administrative Law Division; Master of Laws student at Georgetown University Law Center; and Region Environmental Counsel to Commander, Navy Region Southwest.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude to Commander John James Battisti for his exemplary dedication to our Nation as he retires from Naval service. Throughout his 20 years of public service, Commander Battisti has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the defense of our Nation and the safety of our service members. His profound patriotism, stellar leadership, and tireless work ethic leave an enduring legacy that has strengthened our National Defense.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF COMMUNITY LEADER GEORGE
ROMAGNOLI

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 31, 2026

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of an extraordinary public servant, community leader, affordable housing advocate, and Scouter, George Romagnoli.

George devoted his life and career to serving others and strengthening the communities

he called home. For decades, his leadership made a meaningful difference throughout Pasco County and across the State of Florida, particularly for families seeking the stability and opportunity that come with having a safe, affordable place to call home. George spent many years serving Pasco County, including 16 years as Director of the Pasco County Community Development Department. In that role, he helped shape the County's approach to affordable housing, community development, homelessness, and neighborhood revitalization. His work was not simply about programs and policies; George understood that behind every housing initiative was a family, a senior, a Veteran, or an individual who deserved the opportunity to live with dignity and security. His expertise and commitment earned him recognition well beyond Pasco County. George served six years as Chairman of the Florida Housing Coalition, helping provide statewide leadership on affordable and workforce housing issues. He was also appointed by both Governor Jeb Bush and Governor Charlie Crist to Florida's Affordable Housing Study Commission. George carried that same commitment into the private and nonprofit sectors. Most recently, he served as Senior Vice President and Senior Credit Underwriter for Neighborhood Lending Partners, where he continued working to advance affordable housing and equitable community development. Even after leaving county government, George never stopped looking for ways to strengthen communities and expand opportunity for others. That spirit of service extended far beyond his professional career. George was deeply committed to the Boy Scouts of America, serving as a Council Vice President with the Greater Tampa Bay Area Council. He believed deeply in Scouting's mission of building character, responsibility, leadership, and service in young people. He gave generously of his time and talents because he understood that investing in the next generation is one of the most meaningful ways we can strengthen our communities.

Perhaps the greatest measure of George's life, however, is not found in the positions he held or the projects he helped complete. It is found in the people and communities he impacted. Whether he was helping a family find an affordable home, advocating for stronger housing policies, mentoring a young Scout, or volunteering his leadership to a community organization, George lived by the principle that our greatest responsibility is to use our talents in service to others. That is a legacy that does not end with his passing. It lives on in the families and neighborhoods strengthened by his work, in the housing professionals and public servants who benefited from his leadership, and in the Scouts and community leaders he inspired to serve others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring George Romagnoli for his decades of distinguished service to Pasco County, the State of Florida, and the countless people whose lives were made better because of his work. I also extend my deepest condolences

to his family, friends, colleagues, and fellow Scouts. May his memory be a blessing, and may his example of service continue to inspire us all.

HONORING AUGUST CACCAVONE
ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 31, 2026

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor August Caccavone, who celebrated his 100th birthday on August 12, 2026.

August Caccavone is a retired U.S. Army Sergeant, a lifelong resident of Fort Lee and Hackensack, and a proud World War II veteran who has dedicated his life to serving his country and community.

August is a survivor of the Battle of the Bulge who served as a Sergeant in the 7th Army, was awarded the Bronze Star for destroying two German machine guns, and later served in the Philippines, and with the 8th Army in Japan, exemplifying extraordinary courage and dedication in defense of our Nation.

August remains an active member of VFW Post 2342, where he continues to support and uplift fellow veterans with kindness and good humor; and where he greets neighbors, shares his enduring love of life, and serves as a living symbol of perseverance, strength, and selfless service.

RECOGNIZING MASTER SERGEANT
JESUS L. NIVAR, JR. ON HIS RE-
TIREMENT FROM THE UNITED
STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 31, 2026

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize United States Marine Corps Master Sergeant (MSgt) Jesus L. Nivar, Jr. on his retirement after 22 years of honorable and dedicated service to our Nation. This well-deserved honor reflects the professionalism, discipline, and leadership expected of every Marine.

A native of Santa Domingo, Dominican Republic, MSgt Nivar, Jr. began his career with the Marine Corps in August of 2004 when he attended recruit training in Parris Island, South Carolina. Upon completion of his training, he quickly rose the ranks from Private First Class to Sergeant before being deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in April of 2011.

Following his deployment, MSgt Nivar, Jr. reported to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and served with the 2nd Law Enforcement Battalion and 2nd Marine Logistics group.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

There he was trusted to manage personnel and support deployed forces, leading to a well-deserved promotion to Staff Sergeant. As a result, he was subsequently deployed to serve as the Administrative Chief for the Command Element of the Combined Joint Task Force in the Horn of Africa until November 2013.

In the years following his deployment to the Horn of Africa, MSgt Nivar, Jr. continued to earn positions with increasing responsibility. In November of 2014, he received orders to serve as the Administrative Chief and Funeral Honors Staff Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge at Quantico, Virginia and was later transferred to the Marine and Family Programs to serve as the Administrative Chief. He later provided administrative leadership and inspection oversight at Headquarters, 1st Marine Corps District, and was promoted to Master Sergeant in 2021 while serving with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24. In his most recent position, he served as Adjutant Chief with the Marine Corps Embassy Security Group.

Throughout his distinguished military career, MSgt Nivar, Jr. has earned numerous personal decorations, including the Joint Service Commendation Medal, four awards of the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, four awards of the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and numerous additional service and campaign medals.

Mr. Speaker, let us all join in recognizing Master Sergeant Jesus L. Nivar, Jr. on his retirement from the United States Marine Corps. His humility, work ethic, and unwavering dedication to his fellow Marines embody the very best of what it means to serve this great Nation.

RECOGNIZING REVEREND DAVID
COLEMAN, SR. FOR HIS LIFE-
TIME OF SERVICE

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 31, 2026

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reverend David Coleman. Sr., a devoted pastor, community leader, and servant of Chicago's South Side, who passed away on July 21, 2026, following a lifetime of faith, hard work, and service to the Englewood community.

Born in Parkdale, Arkansas, as the seventh of eleven children, Reverend Coleman learned the values of faith, family, and hard work from an early age. Following the passing of his father in 1967, he assumed the pastoral leadership of New Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church, where he served faithfully for more than 50 years until his retirement in 2020. Through his ministry, Reverend Coleman created a sanctuary where generations of families found spiritual nourishment, youth programs, and community support.

Beyond his pastoral work, Reverend Coleman demonstrated his commitment to service through hard work and civic engagement. For more than two decades, he served as a custodian, engineer, and manager at the Stone Terrace Apartments complex. A lifelong self-taught repairman and craftsman, he personally rehabilitated a former warehouse at West 59th Street and transformed it into a spiritual sanc-

tuary and community gathering place. He was also a dedicated member of the Rainbow PUSH Coalition, the Baptist Pastors Conference of Chicago and Vicinity, and the Baptist Ministers Conference of Chicago.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Reverend David Coleman, Sr., whose more than five decades of pastoral leadership and service touched generations of Chicagoans and strengthened the community he called home. As we mourn his passing, we extend our deepest condolences to his family, including his wife, former Alderman, Bishop Shirley Coleman, daughter, Alderman Stephanie Coleman, and all those who knew and loved him.

HONORING DANIEL "DANNY"
RAMOS FOR A LIFETIME OF CON-
TRIBUTIONS TO CENTRAL FLOR-
IDA

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 31, 2026

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Daniel "Danny" Ramos, who was a distinguished Hispanic community leader, entrepreneur, media producer, and nonprofit founder based in Orlando, Florida. For more than four decades, he dedicated his life's work to promoting Hispanic culture, advancing educational and economic opportunity, assisting families with immigration-related needs, and recognizing the achievements of Hispanic professionals and artists throughout the United States. His legacy reflected a lifelong commitment to service, cultural preservation, and community empowerment.

Ramos was the founder of the National Hispanic Corporate Achievers, a nonprofit organization established to recognize outstanding Hispanic professionals in corporate America while encouraging greater diversity, leadership, and advancement within the business community. Through his vision and leadership, the organization honored hundreds of executives and professionals from major corporations nationwide, becoming one of the longest-running recognition programs dedicated to Hispanic excellence in corporate leadership. In addition to its annual awards program, the organization expanded its mission to include educational seminars, leadership development initiatives, and partnerships with colleges and universities designed to strengthen the pipeline of future Hispanic leaders.

A passionate advocate for Hispanic arts and cultural preservation, Ramos also founded the Arte Mundial Museum Gallery in Orlando. Opened in 2021, the museum served as a permanent exhibition space dedicated exclusively to Hispanic artists, featuring paintings, sculptures, and cultural artifacts representing dozens of countries across the Americas and beyond. The institution was created to preserve, elevate, and celebrate Hispanic cultural heritage while providing artists with a permanent venue to showcase their work.

Under his leadership, the museum became a unique cultural landmark in Central Florida and was recognized in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for its contributions to the preservation of Hispanic art and history.

Among Ramos' most widely recognized accomplishments was the creation of the Raices

Festival, one of Central Florida's largest Hispanic cultural celebrations. The festival was established to highlight the traditions, music, dance, cuisine, and heritage of the diverse Hispanic community while bringing together families, businesses, civic organizations, and cultural institutions. Over the years, Raices grew into a signature annual event that strengthened community pride and celebrated Hispanic identity throughout the region. According to organizational history, Ramos also played a key role in organizing one of the largest Hispanic festivals ever held in New York, further demonstrating his long-standing commitment to cultural celebration and community engagement.

Throughout his career, Ramos founded, supported, and collaborated with numerous organizations and initiatives serving the Hispanic community. These included the Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce, Hispanics SpeakOut TV, Latina Role Model TV, Christian Stars Chaplaincy, and a range of educational and business conferences focused on economic development, leadership training, and minority entrepreneurship. His media and public engagement efforts also addressed critical community issues, including human trafficking prevention, domestic violence awareness, homelessness outreach, consumer education, small business development, and assistance for Hispanic families navigating immigration status, documentation, and related paperwork. Through these efforts, he provided trusted guidance, resources, and advocacy to individuals and families working toward stability and legal security in the United States, while also creating platforms for education, awareness, and public dialogue.

Ramos remained steadfast in his commitment to preserving Hispanic history and expanding opportunities for future generations. Through his work in leadership, media, education, the arts, cultural advocacy, and immigration support services, he combined entrepreneurship with public service in a way that left a lasting imprint on Central Florida's Hispanic community. His organizations, festivals, museums, recognition programs, and educational initiatives continue to reflect his vision of celebrating achievement, strengthening identity, and empowering future leaders.

Daniel "Danny" Ramos' legacy endures through the institutions he built, the communities he strengthened, and the countless individuals he inspired through his lifelong dedication to service, cultural pride, and support for immigrant families seeking opportunity and belonging.

RECOGNIZING STEVE SELLE

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 31, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Steve Selle for receiving the Arvada Chamber of Commerce's 2025 Image Award.

Image Award winners are selected for their commitment to Arvada and the overall positive image they portray within the community. As a longtime member of the Lake Arbor Optimists Club, Steve has changed countless lives and brought a sorely-needed positive outlook to