

Xiong is a student at Fairmont Prep Academy in my home city of Anaheim, and he is a perfect example of how the 21st century students are incorporating technology into their educational experience.

Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate Xiong on a well-deserved honor.

JANUARY 6 FIVE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, 5 years ago, I was on this floor when insurrectionists stormed the Capitol to interfere with the peaceful transfer of power.

On this anniversary, I remember the brave Capitol police officers who put their lives on the line to protect not only Members of Congress but America's democracy. Today, in 2026, political violence continues to threaten the fabric of our society and of our country.

I hope as we reflect back on January 6 that we look at those memories as a lesson that we have to stand together and we have to fight, not with violence, but with debate, looking at each other with understanding the way we have done in this great democratic country for over 250 years.

That night of January 6, it was both Republicans and Democrats that came together after the insurrection that night to make sure we completed the peaceful transfer of power and make sure that democracy continued to reign in America.

RECOGNIZING JIM MONAGHAN

(Mr. LAWLER of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible career of Jim Monaghan, a dedicated public servant who has spent a lifetime serving the people of Stony Point.

Jim's public service began with a 29-year career in the New York City Police Department, where he rose to the rank of lieutenant. From January 2016 through this past December, he served as the town supervisor of Stony Point, focusing on affordability for families and seniors and ensuring public safety. Before becoming town supervisor, Jim served for 2 years on the town board.

A lifelong Rockland County resident, Jim and his wife, Jackie, have lived in Stony Point for 30 years with their two children and now their grandchildren. Community and family remain central to his life. Jim and his wife are active parishioners at Immaculate Conception Church and have volunteered in community sports programs and nonprofits throughout the county.

As Jim retires after a long career serving the people of Stony Point, Rockland County, and New York, I am proud to recognize my good friend, Jim Monaghan, for his many contributions to our community. May this next chapter for him be just as fulfilling as the last.

□ 1045

HONORING ANTHONY ADAMO

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Anthony Adamo, southern region president of the Civil Service Employees Association who passed away this week at the age of 46.

Born in Flushing, Queens, Anthony graduated from New Paltz High School and began his career at SUNY New Paltz in 1999. Not long after, he stepped up as a union activist in CSEA's SUNY New Paltz Local working as a shop steward and grievance representative, driven by his belief in standing up for the working people.

In 2009, Anthony was elected as the local president, a position he held for 10 years, during which he also served as the chair of the union's statewide political action committee.

In 2019, he became southern region president and was reelected by his peers again in 2024. Additionally, Anthony served as an AFSCME delegate and vice president of the New York State AFL-CIO.

Anthony embodied the very spirit of union leadership: passionate, hard-working, and unwavering in his commitment to others. His legacy will live on through the countless lives he touched and the workers he proudly fought for. He was a great friend, an honest broker, and a true New Yorker. I will miss my friend dearly, and may he be at peace.

HONORING JOHN "SPO" ESPOSITO

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of John "Spo" Esposito, a remarkable young man from my district. John passed away peacefully on December 28 at just 25 years old.

John grew up in Somers, New York, where he graduated from Somers High School in 2018. A proud student-athlete, he was a member of the 2016 New York State Championship varsity football team, as well as the track and basketball teams, forming lifelong friendships.

John went on to attend Manhattanville University earning his business degree in 2023. He pursued his entrepreneurial spirit by working at B&E Sports Collectibles and starting his own business, Eye On The Ball Sports Collectibles, alongside his brother Joey, combining his love of sports with his ambition and his family.

Beyond his accomplishments, John was defined by his heart. An avid Yankees fan, he remained deeply connected to his community as a member of the New York Bombers, a blind beep baseball team, and showed us all what it means to persevere with humor, courage, and grace.

My deepest condolences go out to John's parents, Joe and Patti; his brothers, Joey and Michael; and everyone who had the privilege of knowing him.

May God bless his memory.

HONORING LAYLA ELIZABETH SO

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Layla Elizabeth So, a remarkable young lady from Pearl River, New York, whose kindness and creativity touched everyone who knew her. Layla passed away on August 7, 2024, after a heroic 2-year battle with cancer.

Layla grew up in Pearl River, New York. She attended Lincoln Avenue Elementary, Pearl River Middle School, and was a rising sophomore at Pearl River High School where she earned High Honor Roll.

Layla excelled on the varsity bowling team, earning the most improved player award. She also participated in the marine science club, enjoyed baking, and volunteered at Pearl River Library.

One of Layla's proudest accomplishments was being a founding member of Eagle Scout Troop 97G in New City. Her Eagle Project, completed posthumously by Troop 97, transformed 10 55-gallon steel drums into decorative trash cans for the town of Orangetown and earned her the title of Eagle Scout after her final board of review in which she also became a Life Scout.

Layla's legacy reminds us that life isn't always numbered in years but in the impact we leave behind. Though her time with us and in our community was far too short, Layla's ambition and kindness will endure. May her memory always be a blessing.

HONORING PIETER GROSBECK

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an extraordinary Orangeburg resident, Pieter Grosbeck, who passed away at the beginning of December due to a 9/11-related illness.

A proud Eagle Scout, a graduate of Tappan Zee High School and of Rockland Community College, Pieter dedicated his life to serving others. After working as a technician for ITT in Antarctica, Pieter began his career in public safety with the NYPD in 1984, serving as a patrolman in the 44th Precinct in the South Bronx.

In 1990, Pieter continued his career by joining the FDNY where he was later assigned to Engine Company 3 in Chelsea and later transferred to Battalion 7, serving with distinction until his retirement in 2018.

Pieter devoted 45 years of volunteer service to the Blauvelt Volunteer Fire Company, serving as president, chief on three occasions, and an active board member, being awarded life membership in 2019.

He was a loving husband to his wife, Lisa, for 32 years; a devoted friend; and a man who consistently put others before himself. I extend my deepest condolences to his family, his fellow firefighters, and all those who had the privilege of knowing him.

May his memory be a blessing.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR MONTH

(Mr. LATIMER of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Blood Donor Month, which takes place each January, and to thank our fellow Americans who voluntarily donate blood.

As a proud blood donor myself, I commend the New York Blood Center and all the community blood centers across the United States that provide a lifeline to people and patients in our hospitals.

This week the center declared a blood emergency.

A single blood donation can save up to three lives, making the work of our community blood centers and the generosity of the employees and the volunteer blood donors who contribute their work extremely important.

NYBC has been serving New Yorkers with lifesaving blood products since 1964. Today, as part of the New York Blood Center Enterprises, that mission extends far beyond New York. Together, they serve 75 million people and provide 1 million blood products annually to over 400 hospitals.

From newborns and their mothers to cancer patients and trauma victims, community blood centers provide patients with the blood that keeps them alive. This month and always, I thank them.

SALUTING THE WORK OF PORT CHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the work of those who are leaders and members of the Port Chester Historical Society. Their volunteer efforts have kept alive the memories and stories of the years past that represent the foundation of the village of Port Chester today.

Led by president Jordan Allen, the society has maintained the historic Bush-Lyon Homestead and has been able to follow through with a host of different items for this building that was built in 1760, involving the community and activities at that site: celebration of historic dates, fairs and festivals, and important seminars.

This month, in concert with the Village of Port Chester and Westchester's Revolution 250, the society cosponsors An Evening With Benjamin Franklin. The society cosponsors that evening, and he will visit us in the 21st century to tell us a little bit about the 18th century.

Also this month, the historical society holds a workshop on research and genealogy for interested adults who want to do their own family research. The energy and resources activated by those in the society, Kikki Short, Toni Sacco, Carolee Brakewood, Mike DeVittorio, Lou Russo, Joanne Bellantoni, and others, is one more example of everyday Americans doing their part to advance the story of America.

From the floor of the House of Representatives, I salute the Port Chester Historical Society.

PROTECTING DRIVERS FROM DANGEROUS ELECTRIC VEHICLE BATTERY FIRES

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because this week I am proud to introduce new legislation to protect drivers from dangerous electric vehicle battery fires with my colleague Congressman BRIAN FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania.

This bill called the Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Battery Safety Act of 2026, H.R. 6948, comes in response to several fatal EV accidents which occurred in my district. The accidents involved extremely hot and difficult-to-fight chemical battery blazes and have led to loss of multiple lives.

I became aware of the lack of standards governing EV battery design and heightened risks to passengers in EV accidents, including electrical door releases becoming disabled and lack of information on EV firefighting techniques and exposure to chemical toxins from those fires.

This bipartisan bill addresses all of those issues, requiring the U.S. Department of Transportation standards for battery safety, mandates for mechanical door releases, disseminating best practices for firefighters to tackle these runaway blazes, and requiring a study by HHS on the health risks to firefighters.

These new standards will help assure Americans that they are not taking unnecessary risks every time they get behind the wheel of an electric vehicle and ensure our firefighters have the most current knowledge and protection to handle the latest in automotive technology.

RECOGNIZING DAVID MCMAHON

(Mr. NORMAN of South Carolina was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional public servant, David McMahon, whose career reflects unwavering leadership, unwavering patriotism, and a true commitment to the security of America.

Dave has spent much of his life and service to the State of South Carolina. He grew up in Charleston and today oversees the TSA operations at the Charleston International Airport along with five other airports all across South Carolina. He has served as a Federal security director since January of 2020, managing operations and directing security efforts all across our great State.

Dave's record of service is both extensive, and it is remarkable. He has served as an honorary commander with the U.S. Coast Guard Base Charleston through the Joint Base Charleston Program and has made equally significant contributions to national security policy through service and working on various groups.

Dave has had a distinguished record of service. Prior to his time with the Coast Guard, Dave served as the deputy Federal security director for Minnesota at the Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport. He also played a pivotal role as a primary field leader for Super Bowl LIII.

From assistant Federal security director roles to active director positions, Dave has consistently delivered strong leadership and results wherever he was placed. Notably, in the early days of TSA, Dave helped federalize six airports while serving as a crisis management coordinator.

His lengthy service record goes on. Prior to joining the TSA, Dave served more than 4 years as a deputy sheriff with the Dane County Sheriff's Office in Wisconsin. He also served our country for 12 years in the United States Army, a tenure which included a combat tour in Saudi Arabia and Iraq with the 101st Airborne Division.

His military roles included criminal investigator, patrol supervisor, SWAT/sniper team lead, SWAT/police sniper instructor, and military police officer basic instructor. Dave also taught criminal justice for Central Texas College while stationed in Okinawa, Japan.

Dave's life is one truly defined by his service. His commitment to our community, to our great State, and to our Nation has been unlimited. Above all, Dave's family has always been his greatest source of strength. Dave has been married to his wife, Jeanette, for over 39 years, and together they have raised two sons who continue their father's proud tradition of service as members of the United States Air Force.

Apart from his public service, Dave enjoys being with family and spending time outdoors. Dave McMahon is truly a man of strong character. At every moment, he has continually shown up with integrity, with professionalism, and with a commitment to making his community safer. He represents the very best of public service.

On behalf of the people of South Carolina, I am proud to acknowledge Dave McMahon for his decades of service, his steadfast leadership, and the example he sets for all of those who follow in his path. As a father, as a soldier, as a public servant and steadfast South Carolinian, his story is a reminder of the impact one individual can have when they devote their life to the security and well-being of others.

On behalf of our great State of South Carolina's Fifth Congressional District, I thank Dave McMahon and wish him Godspeed in his well-deserved retirement years.

VENEZUELA

(Mr. ESPAILLAT of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, let us make two things clear today, the