

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF COLONEL PETER J. WEINA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Colonel Peter J. Weina, Ph.D., MD, FACP, FIDSA upon his retirement from the Office of Research Protections at the Defense Health Agency. Colonel Weina has served for 45 years in various federal capacities, and his dedicated service will be sorely missed.

Colonel Weina joined the United States Army right out of high school and completed both a bachelor's and a master's degree in zoology at the University of Wisconsin Madison. As a second lieutenant, he completed a Ph.D. in pathology and parasitology, also at UW Madison. After 4 years at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR), he entered medical school at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences. Mr. Weina then completed an internship and residency in internal medicine at Tripler Army Medical Center and a fellowship in infectious diseases at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Colonel Weina, a board-certified doctor in both internal medicine and infectious diseases, also holds a Certificate of Knowledge in clinical tropical medicine and travelers' health. From his time as Chief of Pharmacology at WRAIR and subsequently as Director of Viral Diseases, to his fellowships with the American College of Physicians and the Infectious Diseases Society of America, Colonel Weina has proven himself a competent leader and a measured presence in the medical field.

Over his illustrious career, Colonel Weina has published over 70 articles in peer-reviewed journals, five chapters in books, and two books of his own. He has worked to expand the availability and licensure of intravenous Artesunate, the first new anti-malarial drug since the advent of quinine over 300 years ago. In 2020, this life-saving treatment was licensed by the Food and Drug Administration.

Colonel Weina formerly headed the only College of American Pathologists-accredited leishmania diagnostics laboratory in the world. He has received numerous awards for his work, including the Federal CDC Silo Buster's Collaborative Award of Excellence in 2008, the Colonel George W. Hunter III Certificate in 2011, and the Bronze Star for Service. Colonel Weina's accolades extend far beyond these, as many have recognized his courage, passion, and dedication to bettering his community. He has combined the opportunity to serve his country with the chance to advance our medical knowledge and capabilities, and our Nation is better off for his efforts.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Colonel Peter J. Weina for his 45 years of service to the United States. His contributions to our Nation are innumerable and his impact has been felt by

countless Americans. He has been an inspiration and a mentor to the next generation of health professionals, and I wish him the best in his retirement and may happiness and success find him in all future endeavors.

CONCERN OVER RUTGERS REPORT ON INCREASE IN ANTI-HINDU DISINFORMATION

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise to express concern following a recent report published by The Network Contagion Research Institute (NCRI) at Rutgers University on an increase in anti-Hindu disinformation and Hinduphobic rhetoric on social media platforms such as 4chan, Telegram, Gab, and Twitter. As a religious, cultural, and ethnic minority of Indian and Hindu heritage, I am especially concerned that hateful rhetoric and disinformation can serve as a precursor to violence in the real-world.

NCRI's study, which reviewed social media content ranging from January 2019 to June 2022, found that Hinduphobic tropes—such as the portrayal of Hindus as evil, dirty, tyrannical, genocidal, irredeemable, or disloyal—are prominent across the ideological spectrum and are being deployed by fringe web communities and state actors alike.

Among many concerning findings, this report exposes that organized non-state actors such as ISIS have mounted disinformation campaigns to suggest that "Hindu Extremists" are responsible for attacks proven to be perpetrated by ISIS.

In addition, the study found a proliferation of anti-Hindu attacks in white supremacist communities. Specifically, NCRI identified a growing reference on Twitter to the idea that Hindus are "pajeets" who are dirty, backwards, and perverted. Similarly, memes on Twitter in white supremacist channels borrow antisemitic tropes, such as the idea of a "Zionist Occupied Government." Further, the "pajeet" slur is found throughout the platform 4Chan and has been used by white supremacists in white nationalist podcasts in reference to violence towards Indians and Indian Americans.

We need not search far and wide to understand how hate speech, and specifically Hinduphobia, can translate to real-world violence perpetrated against innocent civilians. For example, John Earnest, the white supremacist shooter of the Chabad Synagogue in San Diego in 2019, repeatedly referenced "pajeets" in his manifesto. This is but one example that warrants our collective attention.

Madam Speaker, we must do everything we can to combat hate and racially and religiously motivate violence against the 2.5 million Hindus living in the United States, the one billion Hindus around the world, and the millions of other religious minorities of all faiths across

the globe. As the proud author of the Hate Crimes Commission Act, and cosponsor of recently enacted legislation to encourage the DOJ to prosecute hate crimes against religious, ethnic, and racial minorities, I will continue to fight to combat hate in all its forms, whether it be Hinduphobia, Islamophobia, or any other form of hate. Similarly, as the author of the Anti-Bullying Act and as Co-Chair of the Congressional LGBTQ+ Equality Caucus, I will continue to fight to combat homophobia and transphobia.

Hinduphobia to date is largely unknown, and the authors of the NCRI study note that "the essential first step in combating hate speech is to call it out." Today, I am endeavoring to use my platform as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives to call out this disturbing trend, a meaningful preliminary action in combating hatred towards a community that contributes greatly to the cultural fabric and economic prosperity of our diverse nation. To that end, I call on all Members of Congress to stand alongside me in condemning this concerning rise in hateful rhetoric and threats of violence.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF LLOYD LEWIS

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, I, along with Representative DIANA DEGETTE, rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Lloyd Lewis and congratulate him on receiving the World Citizenship Award from Civitan International for his nearly two decades of tireless advocacy for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Lloyd made the transition to advocacy following the birth of his son, Kennedy, who was diagnosed with Down Syndrome. This diagnosis led Lloyd to leave a successful career in finance to begin his journey as CEO of Arc Thrift Stores of Colorado—an organization that supports advocacy services for Coloradans with intellectual and developmental disabilities since its founding in 1968.

Under Lloyd's extraordinary leadership, Arc has become one of Colorado's largest employers of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities through their Ambassador program—which Lloyd created. The Ambassador program provides employment with full pay and benefits to individuals with disabilities, in addition to free social, educational, and professional development support.

The impactful work by Lloyd and Arc doesn't stop there. Arc has donated money, supplies, and vouchers to several non-profits throughout Colorado when the need arises. In recent years, Arc has donated to the Boulder Marshall Fire Relief, COVID relief, and to Ukrainian refugees.

With this award, Lloyd joins the ranks of distinguished recipients such as former President

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Dwight D. Eisenhower and Sir Winston Churchill. The World Citizenship Award is not given out annually, rather presented based on merit to those who have made a significant difference to mankind.

Lloyd is a shining example for how we should all strive to live our lives—as passionate, dedicated advocates for the diversity and inclusion of all people. There is no doubt our community is a better place because of Lloyd's leadership at Arc. We congratulate him on receiving this award and thank him for his tireless work advocating for vulnerable communities in Colorado.

HONORING MINNESOTA STATE
REPRESENTATIVE CONNIE
BERNARDY

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Minnesota State Representative Connie Bernardy for her hard work, accomplishments, and service as a member of the Minnesota House of Representatives. Within her eight terms at the legislature, Rep. Bernardy has been a champion for her constituents and especially on the issues of Higher Education and Transportation. I had the great pleasure in serving alongside Representative Bernardy in 2017 and 2018.

Rep. Bernardy was first elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives in 2000. She served until 2006 when she decided to switch roles and work for Education Minnesota as a government-relations specialist. She later returned to the House when she was reelected in 2012. Within her District 41A, she currently represents neighborhoods in Fridley, New Brighton, and Spring Lake Park. Rep. Bernardy is the current Chair of the Higher Education Finance and Policy Committee, where she made significant progress on making higher education more affordable for students in Minnesota.

During her fight for students, she has been a strong advocate on hunger free campuses, improving access through tuition and textbook affordability, dedicated funding for higher ed students of color training to become teachers. As a transportation leader, Rep. Bernardy has pushed for long-term sustainable multi-modal transportation funding. Focused on ensuring safe access to active transportation for Minnesotans who walk, bike, or have a disability.

Having grown-up in the area, Rep. Bernardy truly knows her community and has fought for well-deserved changes. Key legislation that I want to recognize is her work on the Springbrook Wetland Restoration Project, the first urban wetland restoration of its kind in the nation; securing funding to establish the upcoming bus rapid transit F-Line; replacing the Railroad Bridge in New Brighton; enacting an Aquatic Invasive Species Emergency Response Plan for Long Lake; and spearheading the creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Citizen Advisory Committee.

Although her time in the legislature is coming to an end, the work put towards her community and its legacy will never end. Representative Bernardy will truly be missed in the Minnesota House of Representatives.

HONORING ALYCE EAGANS

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. KILMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Alyce Eagans, a beloved local activist and civil rights pioneer of Washington's Sixth Congressional District.

Born in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1929, Eagans moved to Bremerton with her family in 1946. She married Loxie Eagans in 1949, and together they helped to found the Kitsap Chapter of the NAACP alongside other community activists James and Lillian Walker and Al and Hazel Colvin. They had two children, Phyllis and Loxie, Jr.

She passed away in 2016 from cancer but when she got her diagnosis, she didn't let that slow her down.

Alyce Eagans was a pillar of the community. After settling in Bremerton, she worked in the supply office at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard for 20 years and once she retired, she moved on to a career in the Bremerton School District, where she worked in the superintendent's office for 17 years. Eagans continued to volunteer with the school district even after retirement.

During her 70 years in Kitsap County, Eagans took on many leadership roles including PTA president when her children attended school in Bremerton, president of the local NAACP chapter and of the Washington State United Christian Church Ushers. She worked with Dianne Robinson to help found the Black Historical Society of Kitsap County, and was an active member of the YWCA, the Bremerton Central "Lady Lions" and the Kitsap County Historical Society.

Members of our community called her the Mother of the community, go-getter, mentor, activist, stalwart, and full of endless energy.

As the Bremerton NAACP Unit 1134 hosts their annual Freedom Fund Banquet: Black Women are Supreme this weekend—it's my honor to recognize the legacy of a very impactful woman in our community whose legacy will live on for years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK AND
ACHIEVEMENTS OF DR. ROBERT
EICHORN

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the work of Dr. Robert Eichorn who is retiring after two decades of work as an educator. While a Prince William County Principal, Dr. Eichorn's dedicated service has led Independence Nontraditional School to be named the first ever model school by the National Alternative Education Association. His work to meet the needs of an often underserved community has made education and achievement more accessible to Virginia's youth.

Dr. Eichorn has pushed to reimagine education for students, instructors, and the broader Prince William community. He is a fierce advocate for the socioeconomically disadvan-

tagged children of Virginia and has implemented a learner-centric curriculum to meet the needs of the individual. Dr. Eichorn has been an advocate and practitioner for over thirty years, and his efforts have been crucial in the fight for educational equity.

For years, Dr. Eichorn has served as the principal at Independence Nontraditional School, which serves students from kindergarten through 12th grade. The school provides a full curriculum, including music, foreign language, Advanced Placement, and engineering courses. The school also offers internships within their career and technical education trades programs. The primary focus at Independence is to meet the individual needs of every student with tailored instruction. For those who may need a little extra assistance or a second chance, Independence Nontraditional School offers the resources that disadvantaged young people need to achieve their fullest potential.

Dr. Eichorn has been the recipient of multiple awards for his tireless efforts. He was named Prince William County Schools' 2017–18 Principal of the Year. In 2020, the National Association of Secondary School Principals named him a Digital Principal of the Year for his leadership through the COVID–19 pandemic. He shepherded navigated his school as they implemented new technologies to expand access to students and to maintain a semblance of normalcy throughout unprecedented hardship.

As the first model school highlighted by the National Alternative Education Association, Independence has illuminated the successes made possible when our educators strive to develop integrity, ingenuity, and intellect in every student. With the right resources, we must hope to recruit more educators who exemplify the dedication and talent that Dr. Eichorn has demonstrated.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Robert Eichorn for his unwavering dedication to the young people of Prince William County. He has made every effort to ensure that all children have access to the resources they need for a rich and promising education. His students and colleagues alike have expressed their sincere appreciation for his tremendous service. Dr. Eichorn has truly lived up to the Prince William County Public Schools motto, "Providing a World-Class Education." I wish him the best in his retirement and thank him for the service he provided our community.

RECOGNIZING KINGS COUNTY
COMMISSION ON AGING COUNCIL

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Kings County Commission on Aging Council as they celebrate their 50th anniversary.

Founded in 1970, the Kings County Commission on Aging Council (KCCOAC) was established to provide information, assistance, support, and advocacy for senior citizens throughout Kings County. Originally, their mission was centered primarily on providing community events for seniors and promoting social

gatherings for the elderly—many of whom find themselves alone.

Since then, the KCCOAC has greatly expanded its services for seniors through their work providing health and legal services, nutrition programs, rent and utility assistance, tax preparation assistance, health insurance counseling, and senior center activities. These are just some of the many different programs offered to senior citizens through the KCCOAC and essential to thousands of elderly Americans throughout Kings County.

For 50 years, the work done by the Kings County Commission on Aging Council has been crucial to lifting the spirits of thousands of seniors in the Central Valley. Their work has directly impacted their lives and provided a source of community and necessary services to those who need help.

I ask all my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the Kings County Commission on Aging Council as they celebrate 50 years of incredible work on behalf of seniors.

HONORING WAYNE T. WIRICK, JR.

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Wayne T. Wirick, Jr. for 40 years of outstanding service to the City of Sonoma. Mr. Wirick has demonstrated his commitment to the local community through various roles in service to the City of Sonoma, and volunteer work with emergency response departments.

In the last 40 years, Mr. Wirick has fulfilled several roles in the City of Sonoma. He has served as Building Inspector, Building Official, Project Manager, and Interim Public Works Director. In these roles, he was involved in ensuring that buildings were updated and secured to the correct standard, especially as the area experienced earthquakes. Mr. Wirick was also the Planning Section Chief when the city experienced several disasters, including the Nuns fires. Currently, he is Sonoma's Acting City Manager and on-site Information Technology specialist.

Volunteer service is an important part of Mr. Wirick's life, as he volunteered with the City of Sonoma Fire Department for 17 years. Volunteer firefighters are a valuable addition to fire departments everywhere, and by participating, Mr. Wirick put himself in danger in order to protect the people in his community.

Mr. Wirick has also been recognized for his involvement with the Sonoma Valley Boys and Girls Club. He has been recognized by the Sonoma League for Historic Preservation in 1988 for his involvement in preserving Sonoma City Hall and in 1993 for the City of Sonoma Seismic Upgrade Ordinance.

Mr. Wirick is a family man at heart. He and his wife Carol have three children, Matt, Danny, Emily, and two grandchildren, Luke and Reagan. His community views him as a mentor and a leader, with a sense of humor. He holds himself and others in his community to a high standard, while also maintaining patience and kindness.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Mr. Wirick has worked endlessly to serve his community.

Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF TELESCOPE CASUAL FURNITURE IN GRANVILLE, NEW YORK

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Telescope Casual Furniture on their 100th Anniversary in Granville, New York. For over a hundred years, Telescope Casual Furniture has thrived as a family business committed to Made in America manufacturing and community engagement.

Henry Joseph William Vanderminden Sr. founded Telescope Cot Bed & Novelty Co. in 1903. Mr. Vanderminden began producing new cots and camp stools with telescoping legs, giving the company its trademark and name. Vanderminden was an incredible innovator and used the same contemporary mass production techniques as Ford Motor Co. to produce his furniture.

In the early 20th century, Granville was facing an economic decline as the slate industry was slowing. Granville residents, concerned for the future of their home, founded the Granville Community Association to revitalize Granville's economic viability. The Granville Community Association recruited Vanderminden and persuaded him to move Telescope to Granville in 1921. Today, the partnership between Telescope and Granville remains vibrant.

After nearly 120 years in business, Telescope continues to serve as a great example of the entrepreneurial spirit that defines Upstate New York and the North Country and is a testimony of an incredible locally-owned and family-owned business. Telescope Casual Furniture is a staple in the Granville community. From the iconic Telescope water tower to the company's decades long involvement with Granville Little League, Telescope Casual Furniture has left an indelible impact on the Granville community. As Granville's largest private employer, Telescope provides hundreds of high-skill jobs in New York's 21st District and produces high-quality products that are in demand across the country.

The tremendous economic impact that Telescope Casual Furniture has had on Granville cannot be overstated, and I look forward to witnessing their continued success. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, it is my honor to celebrate the incredible impact Telescope Casual Furniture has had on the Granville community for the last 100 years.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL AEROSPACE WEEK

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Aerospace Week and more than 100 years of American innovation and

advancements in the aerospace industry, which has moved, connected, secured, and inspired our world.

Colorado has the nation's second largest aerospace economy. We are fortunate that so many aviation, space, and defense businesses call Colorado home. Not only do they employ tens of thousands of Coloradans, but they play a vital role in our national security, technology development, and keeping the U.S. competitive in the global economy.

The aerospace industry is critical in supporting U.S. national security and defense by providing the military and our allies with the most technologically advanced platforms and systems. Russia's invasion of Ukraine proved the importance of a strong, stable, and resilient defense industrial base. It is because of the cutting edge technologies developed by U.S. aerospace workers, that we are able to aid our allies and safeguard our national interests.

In other areas such as civil aviation and space, the aerospace industry has long shaped technological innovations that help the U.S. maintain global leadership in key sectors of the global economy. These include aircraft and engine design, air traffic control, and space exploration. In aviation, the U.S. industry continues the rapid development of groundbreaking technologies to enable advanced air mobility options and the potential return to supersonic commercial transportation.

The U.S. aerospace industry is working today to build a better, safer, and more prosperous tomorrow. I am proud to celebrate National Aerospace Week and honor all of the people who work tirelessly to develop cutting-edge technologies that not only protect American interests, but also put America at the forefront of aerospace and defense innovation and development.

RECOGNIZING THE 2022 EXCELLENCE IN SALES HONOREES PRESENTED BY THE INSTITUTE FOR EXCELLENCE IN SALES & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2022 recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Award, the Woman in Sales Leadership Award, the IES Member of the Year, the Rising Sales Star Award, and the Sales Speaker of the Year presented by the Institute for Excellence in Sales & Business Development (IES).

IES was created to foster excellence in business sales and development practices to help sales professionals and organizations maximize their efforts. IES conducts a variety of workshops and programs to provide the tools necessary to advance the careers and growth of those who attend. Each year, IES recognizes individuals, teams, and organizations throughout the United States who demonstrate exemplary performance through leadership, risk taking, innovation, vision, and customer development. The Sales Excellence awards seek to promote corporate and organizational sales excellence by recognizing leaders in Enterprise Sales.

The recipient of the 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award is Mr. Dave Rey, the President of Sales for the Global Public Sector at Salesforce. Over his nine-year career with Salesforce, he has driven the company's continued growth and facilitated public sector business across the continent. He has decades of experience supporting the public sector, and his expertise has been invaluable in performing much of our Nation's best work.

Ms. Jennifer Chronis, Senior Vice President of Public Sector at Verizon, is the recipient of this year's Woman in Sales Leadership Award. She has led a team of professionals to work with Verizon's federal, state, local, education, and public safety partners to deliver innovative technology solutions and services, including the Verizon Frontline platform for first responders.

The 2022 IES Member of the Year is sales consultant and author Mr. Vince Burruano. He has worked to recruit, coach, develop, and lead sales professionals across multiple industries, most recently as the Vice President of Sales for the Commercial Division of JK Moving Services. His experience in challenging paradigms has led to his trusted reputation, and his customer-centric approach sets a famously high bar.

Ms. Lauryn Scott is the recipient of the Jay Nussbaum Rising Sales Star Award due to her work as a dynamic sales leader at Cvent, providing software solutions at every stage of an event. Her growth mindset has contributed to the success of her account managers, with many exceeding annual quotas. Lauryn believes that anyone can sell if they are willing to learn, and I am proud of her accomplishments.

Lee Salz is the 2022 IES Sales Speaker of the Year. He has written two books, the most recent of which has become a bestseller. His inspirational story of finding a need in his community and meeting it perfectly embodies what it means to be an entrepreneur. He understands the value in what he sells, and shares that understanding with his community to ensure that everyone's needs are met. He teaches others how to differentiate themselves from those around them, celebrating individual identities and accommodating unmet needs.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dave Rey, Jennifer Chronis, Vince Burruano, Lauryn Scott, and Lee Salz for their exceptional dedication and leadership within the business community. Their dedication to bettering themselves, their organizations, and their communities has made the 11th District of Virginia better.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ANDERSONS, INC.

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 75th anniversary of The Andersons, Inc. The Andersons has a remarkable history within the City of Maumee and the surrounding region. Over the last 75 years, The Andersons has been committed to its mission of providing extraordinary service to both customers and local communities.

Located in Maumee, Ohio, The Andersons was founded in 1947 by Harold and Margaret Anderson under the name of Andersons Truck Terminal. Their first facility was built to speed up deliveries and cut down the lines of grain trucks. The 9 truck bays provided efficient service and a rapid turnaround for local farmers. The company established a rail-to-ship loading area on the Maumee River which gave The Andersons access to Lake Erie to ship their grain.

During their first two decades, The Andersons started a retail store, added additional grain storage, ear corn and cob milling facilities, and began fertilizer blending. With the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway in 1959, The Andersons were able to ship products out of the Great Lakes. To accommodate this expansion, the company opened the first deep-water grain loading facility on the U.S. side of the Great Lakes. The company continued to open new elevators, including the first elevator in the U.S. that could load 100 car unit trains. In the 1970s, as grain receipts tripled, and the company's river elevator was expanded.

The 1980s and 90s brought significant expansion for The Andersons. The company opened additional retail stores in Toledo and Columbus that served the community with a variety of products including produce, baked goods, farm tools, and feed for livestock. They opened liquid fertilizer facilities along the Maumee River, and elevators were opened in Indiana and Michigan. The company entered the rail leasing business and acquired a number of grain and liquid storage facilities across Indiana. On February 20, 1996, The Andersons was incorporated and was listed on the NASDAQ.

Over the past two decades, the company entered the ethanol business and initially oversaw the operations of three ethanol plants. It expanded its operations under The Andersons Denison Ethanol, LLC and acquired an ethanol plant in Denison, Iowa. The company has continued to pivot towards more sustainable and organic products. In 2021, The Andersons purchased Capstone Commodities which has allowed the company to serve the feed market industries in New Mexico and Texas.

The key element of The Andersons business philosophy is to build strong communities. The company has dedicated time, talent, and financial resources to support their employees and the communities they are part of. Through their charitable contributions, The Andersons has been able to support communities across the country.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to The Andersons, Inc. and its staff, past and present, on this remarkable occasion. By celebrating the 75th anniversary, Ohio residents recognize the contribution of The Andersons to our region and community. Congratulations to The Andersons on this significant milestone.

RECOGNIZING SYLVIO DUPUIS

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sylvio Dupuis and his life-

long service to the city of Manchester, where he was born and raised. A proud alumnus of Manchester schools and Saint Anselm College, Syl became an optometrist and built a successful private practice while also serving in the Air National Guard. This spirit of service was best embodied by Syl's two terms as Mayor of Manchester and his emphasis on finding community-based solutions for the Queen City's most pressing issues.

Syl's steadfast leadership and expertise led to a major revitalization effort in Central Manchester, which saw funding secured from HUD used to purchase the former Sacred Heart Hospital. Today, this facility is home to ninety-five subsidized rental apartments operated by the Manchester Housing and Redevelopment Authority. Syl's involvement in the community extended well past his two terms as Mayor, including his roles as a founding President of Catholic Medical Center, Commissioner of Health and Human Services, and later Commissioner of Insurance.

Syl's leadership on housing issues also benefited NeighborWorks in their formative years, resulting in the organization converting the Straw Mansion at the former Notre Dame College into affordable rental apartments for Manchester's workforce. It is both fitting and proper that Syl's service to the community be recognized with the David P. Goodwin Outstanding Neighbor Award, and I can think of no one more deserving of the title "outstanding neighbor."

Syl's vision for a safer, cleaner Manchester has made the Queen City one of the largest metropolitan centers in New Hampshire, and we owe him and his wife, Cecile, a debt of gratitude for their dedication to our state. On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to congratulate Sylvio Dupuis for his tireless commitment to Manchester and thank him for his outstanding contributions to the community.

HONORING THE LENOLA VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Lenola Volunteer Fire Company on their 100-year anniversary of service to the Moorestown community, and New Jersey's 3rd District.

Since its informal founding in 1922 out of one of the first volunteers' houses to its firehouse location today, the Lenola Volunteer Fire Company has been dedicated to protecting the Moorestown area and saving countless lives in our community. As a fully volunteer-led fire company, with some being the 2nd or 3rd generations of fire fighters in their families, each member has devoted their time and service to the safety of our neighbors. Whether it be major fires, car accidents, or various incidents in between, members of the Lenola Volunteer Fire Company have consistently answered the call to service in people's times of need.

Over the years, the Lenola Volunteer Fire Company has been recognized by many as a pillar of community building in our district.

While they have been there to help in times of emergency, they have also provided numerous programs and events for community outreach for people to enjoy. From their 69-year-old Easter egg hunt to various other Moorestown traditions, you can often find Lenola Volunteer Fire Company supporting other local activities.

Not only have volunteers gained recognition by residents in the Moorestown area, but they have also been recognized throughout the state of New Jersey for their skills in the field and years of service. Across all of New Jersey, Lenola Volunteer Fire Company is well-known for their outstanding accomplishments in fire truck musters and competing with various fire departments across the state. Awarded the Presidents Trophy four times, with 3 of those being in consecutive years, Lenola Volunteer Fire Company has showcased the success and expertise of their firefighters year after year.

Our volunteer firefighters are integral to building and maintaining the safer, more secure, and more connected communities we wish to live in. On the centennial anniversary of the Lenola Volunteer Fire Company, I thank each of their volunteers over the years for their service to our communities.

AUGUST CONSTITUENT OF THE MONTH STATEMENT

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Beatriz Palmer as my August Constituent of the Month. As we begin another school year, we must continue to support and uplift the work of local educators and community leaders who are going above and beyond to help students succeed.

Palmer is the Program Manager for the Service Learning and Volunteer Center at MiraCosta College, where she focuses on helping students combine their studies with community service and civic engagement. Her passion for public service is evident in her work at the college and the community, where she is helping to foster the next generation of young people and adults who understand the power of civic engagement and giving back to their community.

In addition to her role at the college, Palmer serves as the new board president of Operation HOPE-North County, a shelter for families with children and single women experiencing homelessness. Operation HOPE-North County provides critical wrap-around and case management services for families with children and single women, and the families who graduate from their program. Prior to her board role, Palmer and her family volunteered preparing and purchasing meals for the shelter residents, supported the kids program, brought others to OHNC, and created fundraisers and drives for the shelter. She continues to advocate for housing needs throughout the community, connecting college students to the organization for service opportunities, and providing other support to advance Operation HOPE-North County's vital mission.

I am incredibly grateful for constituents like Palmer who are committed to helping our stu-

dents succeed and growing a generation of community members who appreciate the value of public service. Our District is brighter because of her dedication to her students and her community. I have no doubt that Palmer will continue to inspire future leaders, and I'm honored to recognize her as my August Constituent of the Month.

Representative LEVIN's Constituent of the Month program recognizes outstanding North County San Diego and South Orange County Residents who have gone above and beyond to help their neighbors, give back to their community, and represent the best of our country. Rep. LEVIN's July Constituent of the Month was local reproductive health doctor Dr. Pratima Gupta. Rep. LEVIN's June Constituent of the Month was Carlsbad native and LGBTQIA+ advocate Kevin Lee. To nominate a resident of the 49th District to be the Constituent of the Month, visit <https://mikelevin.house.gov/services/constituent-month>.

RECOGNIZING PAUL WEBSTER FOR 50 YEARS SERVING WITH HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize a leading figure in the practice of community and economic development, Mr. Paul Webster.

Mr. Webster serves as the Director of the Financial Management Division in the Office of Community Planning and Development for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Mr. Webster's commitment to public service is unparalleled, his five-decade-long career focused on creating resilient communities, suitable living environments, and economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons and families.

Mr. Webster joined the Department in 1972 and has served as Director since 1983. In this role, Mr. Webster oversees the Section 108 loan guarantee program, a transformational program and resource for low-income communities, including funding for critical economic development projects and facilitation of affordable housing solutions that would otherwise not be possible.

He spearheaded the expansion of the Section 108 program. Over the course of his career, Mr. Webster has overseen an unprecedented 2,000 loan guarantee commitments with a total value close to \$10 billion. These numbers underscore his work to provide the much-needed resources that revitalize American communities and ensure everyone has a chance to succeed.

Mr. Webster also championed legislation that established the Economic Development Initiative (EDI), which provided grant funds to support and enhance the use of Section 108 loan guarantees and the subsequent Brownfields EDI to help address environmental cleanup efforts, returning contaminated property to sustainable use. His expertise also extended to long-term disaster recovery work and neighborhood stabilization activities targeted at addressing the effects of abandoned and foreclosed housing.

He is one of the leading experts on financial management and is happy to provide guidance and advice to individuals, organizations, and federal, state, and local partners for the Department. Equally important, Mr. Webster has been and continues to be a mentor to the next generation of community development and financial management professionals, reflected in the esteem of his colleagues, staff, and external partners.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this remarkable public servant, whose expertise, tenacity, and creativity in economic and community development has helped to transform hundreds of communities for the better. Paul Webster has tirelessly dedicated himself to making life better for countless Americans. I hope his continuing legacy inspires us all to renew our commitments to serving our communities.

RECOGNIZING BARBARA L. CHAVEZ

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mrs. TORRES of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of my constituent, the late BarBara L. Chavez. BarBara served our community in a variety of ways, including as a Board Member of the Fontana Unified School District and member of the Planning Commission for the City of Rialto.

BarBara was devoted to helping others. She worked as a teacher's aide for many years, and from 2003 to 2006 served as the first Latina President of United Steelworkers Local 8599, where she represented childcare providers, substitutes, and college tutors. In 2008, BarBara was elected to the Fontana Unified School Board where she served for 8 years, continuing her service to the children and educators of her community.

In 2018, BarBara L. Chavez was selected to be a member of the Planning Commission for the City of Rialto, where she would go on to serve as Vice Chair. Her work on the Planning Commission contributed to many projects that benefit the city and residents of Rialto and continue to play a pivotal role in the economic development of our region.

BarBara shined as the embodiment of generosity and compassion. As an active parishioner at St. John Catholic Church, she worked tirelessly to help those in need throughout Rialto and beyond.

Sadly, our community is now in mourning. On Sunday, August 21st, BarBara tragically passed away in a traffic collision. I offer my deepest condolences to her friends and family on their loss.

For her outstanding accomplishments and her contributions to her community, it is my honor to recognize BarBara L. Chavez. Her years of civic service and commitment to the people of Rialto and Fontana are worthy of the highest commendation. May she rest in peace and her family find comfort during this time. She will be missed.

RECOGNIZING DR. SHETAL SHAH,
MD, FAAP

HON. KATHLEEN M. RICE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Miss RICE of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Shetal Shah, MD, FAAP, for his advocacy on the behalf of New York's children and for his many years serving as a resource to my office.

A noted pediatrician, neonatologist, and researcher, Dr. Shah has tirelessly fought to protect the well-being of children. He has promoted increased funding for childhood vaccinations and children's hospitals and improving the Medicaid and CHIP programs to ensure children always have access to the care they need. He is a voice for his fellow doctors, and his efforts will help guarantee that medical school graduates continue to pursue careers in pediatrics and pediatric subspecialties in underserved communities.

Dr. Shah has also played a critical role in promoting public health throughout the COVID-19 pandemic by hand-delivering protective equipment to doctors across Long Island. His determination provided children in our communities with the critical care they needed.

In New York, and across the country, we are incredibly fortunate to have people like Dr. Shah, whose work ensures that our children grow into healthy adults. I would like to commend Dr. Shah for his commitment to public health and to the children of New York's Fourth Congressional District.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF GERARD "ROD" GAYNOR, JR.

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss Gerard "Rod" Gaynor Jr. of New London, Connecticut who passed away on August 29, 2022, at age 80. Rod was a well-respected, virtuous man, whose positive, lifelong contributions to the City of New London were honored by an overwhelming turnout from the community at his wake and funeral on September 2nd and 3rd.

Born in 1942 to Gerard and Gemma Gaynor, Rod was raised within, grew through, and empowered by the City of New London. His family upbringing and his deep religious faith, drove his passion to serve those around him. He gained impactful learning experiences from New London's schools, attending both public schools and Saint Joseph's parochial school before earning a college degree from Mitchell College, located right in the center of the city.

Upon graduating college, Rod embarked on a full-time career within the New London Police Department, eventually gaining a promotion in his service from officer to detective for the force. He had a penchant for purposing his sharp sense of loyalty toward creating a more effective and safer town, particularly through community policing. For example, he helped found several programs within the De-

partment, including both the first crime prevention program and scuba diving unit for a town that borders the Thames River and Long Island Sound. A level-headed, diligent professional, Officer Gaynor became the first member of the New London Police Department to earn the VFW Police Officer of the Year award early on in his tenure, one of the innumerable commendations he received throughout his 37-year-long career for committing both his heart and mind to the Department.

Upon his retirement from the force, Rod became all the more active within the City and its local institutions. It was no small footnote within his life of service that he ran for and was elected to the position of city councilor before becoming mayor of the City of New London. He was an active member of New London politics, and as a candidate who has been on the ballot in New London a number of times, I personally benefitted from his stalwart support and advice.

If you were to ask him, however, one of the accomplishments he prided himself in most was performing the role of the first full-time, permanent Deacon of St. Joseph's Church. A devoted husband, father and grandfather, Rod eventually made the difficult decision to move from New London to live closer to his family in the neighboring town of Waterford. He of course remained active within the local communities, maintaining strong ties to the city while also becoming elected to Waterford's Representative Town Meeting.

Madam Speaker, it is nothing short of inspiring when constituents, like Rod, remain as loyal and dedicated to giving back to the very communities that were so formational in their own upbringing. It is a kind of mission that speaks a thousand words about one's character. Rod dedicated his life in service to the People of New London and was known to be gentle in every relationship. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him, and we remain forever grateful that there are so many community members to carry on his name and memory. This includes his wife, Carole, of more than 58 years, his four children, Maureen, Teresa, Christine, and "Rod" III, grandchildren and great-grandchildren as well as the greater family. To that end, Madam Speaker, it is fitting that my colleagues in the House join me in uplifting the memory of Gerard "Rod" Gaynor, Jr.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF THE
MARSH FOUNDATION'S 100TH AN-
NIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Marsh Foundation. The Marsh Foundation has a remarkable history within Van Wert and the surrounding community. Over the last 100 years, the Foundation has been committed to its mission of inspiring hope, teaching others, and caring for children and families.

The Marsh Foundation was made possible by the family of George and Hilinda Marsh. George, Hilinda, and their daughter Katie donated their substantial estate for the purpose

of helping children and families in need. The concept for the Foundation originated when George and Hilinda were traveling through Van Wert on their way home from Fort Wayne, Indiana when they noticed two small boys huddled together in a dark doorway. Their mother was working that evening, so the boys had to wait during the winter night for her to finish. The sight of the cold, young boys drove the compassionate Marshs to use their resources to help those in need.

Through his will, George Marsh created a foundation to benefit youth in the area. His will provided \$5,000,000 for the establishment of the Foundation. During the last 100 years, the Marsh Foundation has provided many services including: on-campus group homes for boys ages ten to seventeen, a specialized residential program for male juvenile sex offenders, a strong network of foster homes, clinical services, an on-campus school for youth in care, and a full-time activities program for youth.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to the Marsh Foundation and its staff, past and present, on this remarkable occasion. By celebrating the one hundredth anniversary, community members and Ohio residents recognize the contribution of the Foundation to our region and community. Congratulations to the Marsh Foundation on this significant milestone.

COMMENDING JOAN W. SACAROB
AND DONALD A. SACAROB

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the lifetime of service that Joan and Donald Sacarob have dedicated to Hadassah, a non-profit organization that seeks to expand women's rights and their leadership capacity. Hadassah embodies Jewish values to advance health equity, fight antisemitism, and equip women with the tools they need to make a difference in their communities.

Hadassah's mission is to provide education, advocacy, and youth development opportunities to enhance the lives of those in their community. Their work extends to the Hadassah Medical Organization to research cutting-edge medical procedures and provide first-rate care for those who need it. To these ends, they connect and empower Jewish women to lead by example.

The organization traces its origins back to the extraordinary public service of Henrietta Szold, who dedicated her life to ameliorating disease and starvation that were disproportionately affecting Jewish people. She founded youth villages to house Jewish children who fled their homelands as Nazi troops invaded Eastern Europe. Her legacy of care has rippled outward for over a century. Hadassah was awarded a Nobel Peace Prize nomination for their work to offer world-class medical care to all, regardless of race, ethnicity, or national origin, following their commitment to building a bridge to peace through medicine.

For 50 consecutive years, Joan Sacarob has served Hadassah with national portfolios focused on advocacy and philanthropy. Her husband Donald has served as the National Associate Vice President of Hadassah, the

men's branch of the organization. For decades, these two hardworking philanthropists and activists have committed themselves to the betterment of the Northern Virginia and Greater Washington Metropolitan Area Jewish communities.

Joan was a pivotal figure in the development of the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, and her friends and colleagues recognize her as a passionate and resilient force. She served for 20 years on the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington and was honored for her distinguished service on the board in 2006. Her advocacy work has not dwindled since then, and I am honored to know such a fierce advocate for equity.

Joan and Donald have earned the respect and recognition of their peers. Their work has been instrumental in advancing the causes of health equity, women's leadership, and access to much needed resources. I wish them every success and comfort as they continue their work.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Joan and Donald Sacarob for their exceptional dedication and leadership within our community.

HONORING THE GEORGE L. ALTAMURA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Hands Across the Valley President and Founder, George Altamura, upon the creation of the George L. Altamura Endowment. Mr. Altamura has dedicated his life to serving others, choosing to focus on preventing his fellow citizens from going hungry by creating programs that offer food resources.

Mr. Altamura was born in 1934 in Buffalo, New York, and came to live in the Napa Valley in the 1940s. He began a successful career in real estate after owning both a dry-cleaning business and a restaurant. Community service became a priority in Mr. Altamura's life, starting largely with food insecurity prevention.

This all started with the cancellation of an annual food fundraising event. Mr. Altamura acted quickly in inviting Francis Coppola, Johnny Miller, Steve Young, and me to help him serve food at his restaurant, in the Napa Valley, instead. Our team was able to serve over 300 people and raise more than \$30,000, making Mr. Altamura's efforts profoundly successful.

This event inspired Mr. Altamura, along with other leaders in our community, to come together "to do something about the hunger in Napa Valley." Learning that hundreds of people in Napa County went hungry on a daily basis, Mr. Altamura founded Hands Across the Valley, an annual event which raises funds for the Napa Valley Food Bank, Meals on Wheels, the Salvation Army, and The Table.

Since its founding in 1994, Hands Across the Valley has raised over \$2 million to help benefit Napa Valley's Safety Net Food programs. In addition to providing much needed funding to these services, Hands Across the

Valley helps the Food Bank, Catholic Charities, The Table and American Canyon Family Resource Center provide holiday turkeys and food baskets each year.

In honor of over 30 years of service, Hands Across the Valley has established the George L. Altamura Endowment to permanently aid in the fight against hunger in Napa Valley. The Endowment will supply safety net food programs in Napa Valley with long-term financial support.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Mr. Altamura has worked endlessly to help the fight against hunger in our community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

ANGELS IN ADOPTION

HON. DON BACON

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. BACON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Amber Richardson who has recently been nominated for the Angels of Adoption Award. Historically, the Angels of Adoption program has celebrated individuals, couples, families, and organizations from across the nation who have made an extraordinary contribution on behalf of vulnerable children and families. Those recognized through Angels of Adoption represent a wide variety of individuals involved in the adoption, foster care, and the child welfare world. I am proud to nominate Amber for this award as she is the founder and CEO of Foster Love and has fostered 14 different children over her lifetime.

In June 2020, Amber Richardson Founded Foster Love, an official 501c3 within my district in Omaha, that has made an extraordinary impact on the lives of foster children within our community since its creation. Their mission is to provide basic needs and opportunities for children in foster care, so they feel confident, empowered, and valued, and foster families feel supported. They have done this by opening a storefront boutique in which foster children can shop the latest trends in a welcoming, unique setting where merchandise is new, high quality, and free of cost. The store front offers multiple programs each month such as shopping days, appointments for emergency needs, and an art program called Artsy Kids.

Amber and her husband, Matthew, have fostered 14 different children. Starting in 2007 they welcomed Trevor, their first foster child, into their home and later adopted him in order to give him a "forever home". This was the spark that led Amber to continue developing relationships within the foster community as well as volunteering and advocating on different foster panels. Amber has been a driving force within the Omaha foster care community; her drive and passion for this cause has been truly inspiring.

Through Foster Love, Amber has built a vibrant community that helps support both foster children and their families. To date, Foster Love has served and supported over 800 children and foster parents, their work continues to expand and grow. Not only are these children provided with the necessary resources that they need to thrive on a daily basis, but they are also loved every step of the way.

Foster Love exemplifies love and dignity, and I could not be happier to recognize Amber Richardson for the Angels of Adoption Award.

I salute and thank Amber for her impression upon the Omaha community, which will be felt for years to come.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW YORK STATE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the New York State Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Council of Chapters. The New York State MOAA Council has worked hard to bring New York State's chapters together since its charter in 1972 and is now the only state council to have held fifty consecutive conventions. It is my honor to recognize the dedication of New York State's chapters to MOAA's mission as they celebrate this incredible achievement in New York's 21st District.

Since 1972, the New York State MOAA Council has worked hard to promote the "Never Stop Serving" motto of MOAA. In 1970, Lt. Col. Leslie Reichardt, United States Air Force (Ret.) led the New York MOAA Chapters in uniting to create a Council of Chapters. The Council was chartered on October 7, 1972 with the goal of promoting camaraderie and selfless service among its members.

MOAA works to bring the voices of all military officers to the highest levels of government through leading the charge on fighting for fair compensation and benefits for all members of the military community. The New York State MOAA Council fosters relationships among military officers at every stage of their career, so they can work together to protect the rights and interests of officers and their families. This work has led them to be the top ranked association in advocating for all members of the uniformed services for 15 years. Not only do member chapters work for the military community, they also are active within their communities and support a wide variety of service member organizations.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to congratulate the New York State MOAA Chapter of Councils on 50 years of loyal service to our military officers. And I want to thank all of you and your families for selflessly dedicating your lives to our Nation's armed services. I thank them for their service.

RECOGNIZING LEILANI CAAMAL

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of 17-year-old Leilani Caamal, who has broken barriers to become a tackle football star and wrestling standout.

Since she was nine years old, Leilani has tackled the stereotype that girls can't and don't play football. Leilani put on shoulder pads and a helmet to play tackle football like her brother. In the past two years, she's emerged as an All-American linebacker for the Mile High Blaze, a women's semi-pro tackle football team that is a part of the Women's Football Alliance.

Leilani represents the future of women's tackle football as it continues to grow in popularity. She's currently a linebacker on the Vista Peak High School boys varsity football team working to be a leader and role model for young girls both on and off the field. Like the trailblazers who paved the way before her, Leilani wants to inspire girls and young women by demonstrating the opportunities and choices available to them.

Leilani not only excels on the football field, but is also leading the way in the growth of women's wrestling across the country. With big Olympic and gold medal aspirations, I have no doubt Leilani's courage and perseverance will bring her success whether it's in football or wrestling.

Young women like Leilani represent the future of tackle football and women's sports—fostering and promoting an accepting environment for young women and girls to pursue their athletic goals. Leilani motivates and inspires not only her peers, but the next generation of young female athletes who have their eyes on male-dominated sports. I am proud to recognize Leilani for her athletic successes and thank her for her relentless pursuit fighting for an inclusive environment for women in sports.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES DULLES CHAPTER 1241

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2022

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Dulles Chapter 1241 on its 50th anniversary. The Northern Virginia region is home to tens of thousands of federal employees and many retirees who have chosen to stay in the region. Throughout their careers, these dedicated civil servants have given their time and effort to serve their fellow Americans, and NARFE has consistently provided them with coordinated support.

Founded in 1921, NARFE is a nonpartisan organization dedicated to protecting and enhancing the earned pay, retirement, and health care benefits of federal employees and retirees as well as their spouses and survivors. Dulles Chapter 1241 is one of more than 1600 NARFE chapters nationwide.

The Charter for Chapter 1241 was issued June 21, 1972. At that time, there were nine members. Today, the Chapter membership has grown to approximately 350 members with another 400 national members in the Dulles jurisdiction. Chapter members have had a strong voice in many national and local legislative issues affecting federal retirees, senior citizens, and the public at large. In 2015, following the dissolution of the Leesburg Chapter, the Dulles Chapter welcomed many of these federal employees and retirees into their

ranks with open arms. Chapter 1241 has worked from their founding to represent federal employees, but also to better their community.

This chapter has supported Alzheimer's research for many years through regular drawings, the "Red Pot" for monthly donations, and the Alzheimer's Christmas Challenge. Additionally, the Dulles chapter has sponsored several food drives for Fairfax County food pantries, collecting resources for those who have been hit the hardest by misfortune. Throughout the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Dulles Chapter has seen its share of hardship, but these federal employees have still banded together to ensure that everyone's needs are met.

Over the years, members have also participated in health and community fairs, auto shows, and other outreach activities. Additionally, many members have been active leaders in the Virginia Federation of NARFE. These accomplished federal employees have earned the attention and praise of numerous bodies, from Virginia state legislators to NARFE national leaders, as well as travel, medical, insurance, tax, and law enforcement experts.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Dulles Chapter 1241 for 50 years of dedicated service to Northern Virginia's federal employees. These individuals are the lifeblood of our federal government, and I am grateful for their service and proud to represent such outstanding individuals. I wish them the best for their anniversary, and continued success in future endeavors.