

his professional career began as an analyst at U.S. Corrugated Fiber Box Company. In 1972 under Andre's direction, U.S. Corrugated was renamed Lacy Diversified Industries (LDI) to reflect its expanded interests. LDI has made several dozen acquisitions since 1972 and while it has since sold many of its holdings LDI still owns OIA Global, UltiMed Inc., and an office building on the Circle in downtown Indianapolis. Andre served as the Chief Executive Officer of LDI from 1983 until his retirement in 2006 and was the Chairman of the Board from 1991 until his passing.

Andre's remarkable career as a transformative figure both within his family business and in his community is truly unmatched. Andre served as a board member for several companies including Patterson Companies, Inc., Ethyl Corporation, Albemarle Corporation, Tredegar Corporation, First Colony Insurance Co., IPALCO, National Bank of Indianapolis, and Merchants National Bank. He has held leadership positions with numerous civic organizations including as a trustee at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, board member of the Community Leaders Allied for Superior Schools and The Nature Conservancy of Indiana. Andre is a former chairman of the 500 Festival, Indiana Chamber of Commerce, and the United Way of Central Indiana, where he and his late wife, Julia, were Meridian Society members. Meridian Society members are the movers and shakers of our community. They lead the charge in improving the lives of thousands of people in Central Indiana through their leadership, dedication and generous gifts of \$25,000 or more annually. In 2016, Andre and Julia donated more than \$25 million dollars to Butler University's Business School, which now bears his family's name. This is the largest gift from an individual or family in the history of Butler University. In addition to his monetary donation, Andre donated his time and expertise to both the faculty and students at Butler University. From 2009 until his passing, Andre served as chairman of the Indiana State Fair Commission and was the driving force in the \$63 million renovation of the Indiana State Fairgrounds Coliseum. Andre and Julia donated \$2 million dollars to jumpstart this campaign.

In October of 2017, he was inducted into the Indiana Academy for lifetime achievement and contributions throughout the state by The Independent Colleges of Indiana. He was recently recognized as the 2017 Indiana Philanthropy Awards recipient by the Indiana Chapter of The Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Typically, the Sagamore of the Wabash honor is given for wisdom, public commitment, and a concern for the well-being of others. Andre embodied this award to the fullest, as he has been recognized as a Sagamore of the Wabash by Governors Roger Branigan, Robert Orr and Mitch Daniels. The Sagamore of the Wabash is the highest honor an Indiana governor can bestow.

In November of 2017 Andre was awarded the Whistler Award by The Greater Indianapolis Progress Committee. The annual Whistler Award recognizes individuals who, outside the regular duties of their chosen professions, have brought together the public and private sectors for civic improvement in Indianapolis. Andre's name will be added to a limestone and granite monument located in the Charles L. Whistler Memorial Plaza at the City Market in downtown Indianapolis.

Andre's legacy as a brilliant business and community leader will live on through his countless contributions to the Hoosier State. Andre had a well-known passion for motorcycling and adventure seeking. He tragically passed away at the age of 78 following a motorcycle crash on a private tour of Botswana. He lived his life to the fullest and chased his dreams and passions with such great vigor. Andre was a great son of Indianapolis, a leader in Indiana, who deeply loved our country. He will be missed by me and so many. I want to extend my most heartfelt condolences to his three sons, J.A., Mark, and Peter, and their families in their time of mourning as they carry on the Lacy Family legacy.

TRIBUTE TO DON BLUMENTHAL

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Don Blumenthal of West Des Moines, Iowa, for being named one of *dsm Magazine's* 2017 "Sages Over 70."

The "Sages Over 70" award honors community leaders who continue to serve as mentors and leaders when others have retired. Don grew up in his father's scrap-iron yard company, and launched several businesses over his career beginning in 1964 with Steel Warehousing, Inc. Don and his wife, Margo, are just as well-known through for their philanthropic efforts in the Des Moines area, supporting organizations such as Youth Emergency Services and Shelter, United Way of Central Iowa, Varsity—The Children's Charity, Animal Rescue League of Iowa, and the Blank Park Zoo. One of his many words of wisdom he has offered to the magazine is to "remember the community that has made your life possible."

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Don for being named a "Sages Over 70" by *dsm Magazine*, and applaud him for his service to his community. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Don for this outstanding achievement and in wishing him nothing but the best.

IN RECOGNITION OF LORI S. LIU

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2017

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lori Liu who is leaving public service after four years on the Brisbane City Council, the last year as Mayor of this storied town near San Francisco Bay. Lori's deep commitment to public service is evident from her accomplishments and contributions to her community. She is a champion of education, children, the arts, recreation, economic development and the environment.

Lori was first elected to the council in 2013. While on the council, she served on, or as representative to, a number of organizations, including the Association of Bay Area Govern-

ments, the Peninsula Clean Energy Board of Directors, the County Library JPA, the council's Economic Development Subcommittee, the Health and Safety Subcommittee, the League of California Cities, the liaison to the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Airport Community Roundtable, the Planning Commission, the liaison to the Open Space and Ecology Committee, the Community Choice Energy Advisory Committee and many others. You may justifiably surmise from this lengthy list that Lori is well-versed in a variety of issues affecting the residents of Brisbane and the region.

Her leadership is notable as she tackled one of the most longstanding opportunities and challenges in the community, the Baylands Project. Lori was indefatigable as she conducted council meetings and listened closely to the community through hours of discussions involving possible offices, open space, housing, environmental cleanup and restoration, and the overall concept of a sustainable community. She carefully weighed the impacts of this project on Brisbane and our region.

She was instrumental in laying the groundwork to build a new library which will be constructed starting next year. Libraries are community spaces that connect generations and nurture life-long learning. The Brisbane Library will include a Maker's Space to spark the creativity of the next generation of innovators, spaces for children and teens, a quiet study area, an outdoor garden, a community center, and the first public arts project triggered by a city ordinance.

Lori has a long track record of working on environmental issues. In fact, when she moved to Brisbane in 2004, her very first volunteer activity was to attend an Earth Day clean up event. While on the council, she helped to secure a grant to renovate Crocker Park Trail. This funding will make the trail more usable for bicyclists, joggers and parents with strollers. It will also establish a safe pedestrian and bike-friendly connection between residential development at the Ridge and Lipman Middle School. Due in part to Lori's outstanding work, Brisbane received the Platinum level Spotlight Award from the Institute for Local Government for environmental leadership and best practices. With her support, the city signed up to have all municipal electric accounts serviced by 100 percent renewable energy.

Lori understands that a high quality of life for residents depends on a healthy balance of physical and financial security, education, functioning infrastructure, clean air and clean water, and recreation and entertainment. Life without music and fun would not be complete, so Lori supported the launch of two spectacular, family-friendly community events, the Marina Kite Festival and the Star City Music Festival. The kite festival celebrated its first anniversary this June and the music festival will have its premier in July next year.

Lori holds a B.A. from Tufts University and a J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law. She and her husband Raymond Liu live in Belmont with their two young children, Samantha and Noah.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Lori Liu for her exemplary service on the Brisbane City Council. Her public service made Brisbane a better place to live, work and visit. I personally regret

that she is leaving office and hope she will return to offer Brisbane her skills and talents in addressing the issues facing her beloved city. I have no doubt that Lori will continue to make enormous contributions to any effort she undertakes.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
CITALLI ORTIZ AS THE 2017 WOMEN'S
YOUTH WORLD CHAMPION

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2017

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the determination, perseverance, and accomplishments of Citalli Ortiz, a young constituent who became the first female boxer in the Coachella Valley to win the gold medal for Team USA in the 2017 Women's Youth World Championships.

Citalli is a Coachella Valley High School student with an inspiring commitment and passion for boxing. Her dedication to giving her all in the ring has led her to become the first female boxer from Coachella Valley Boxing Club gym to achieve such high recognition.

She began boxing when she was a little girl, inspired by her father, Alex Ortiz, and her older sister, who was also a boxer. Her training started when a couple of boys were teasing and punching Citalli. Her father saw this and took the opportunity to teach her how to use some boxing moves for self-defense, including the "one-two" move. Citalli defended herself successfully against the boys, and decided to become a boxer, following in her sister's footsteps.

Citalli's road to success hasn't always been easy. In the beginning, trainers did not want to work with her due to her weight. As a result, her father decided to become her trainer and empowered her to fight for her dreams. After long hours of training in the gym, Citalli achieved her first victory at the age of 12 at the Desert Showdown.

Citalli brings agility and strength to the ring in every fight. She has won medals and beat national champions at the 2016 USA Junior and Youth Boxing Championships in Nevada, the 2016 USA Boxing Junior Olympic, and the Prep National and Youth Open Championships in Texas. Citalli is also the 2016 Oxnard National PAL Champion, 3x Desert Showdown Champion, and the 2015 Gene Lewis Champion. To this day, she remains undefeated.

Throughout her 8 years in boxing, Citalli has witnessed a large gender disparity in the ring. She is committed to become a professional boxer so she can represent women in boxing. Citalli's greatest inspirations are female professional boxers such as Cecilia Braekhus and Hannah Gabriel. Her goal is to represent USA at the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Citalli Ortiz. On behalf of California's 36th Congressional District, I commend her accomplishments and passion for boxing. I look forward to her many more victories in the ring.

RECOGNIZING RETIRED UNITED
STATES AIR FORCE CAPTAIN NA-
THAN NELSON

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2017

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a true American hero and patriot.

Captain Nelson, USAF, Retired, enlisted in the military in 2006. After 4 years of enlisted service, Nelson applied to Officer Training School with the encouragement of his commanding officer. He attended Officer Training School in Montgomery, Alabama in 2011, followed by Intelligence Officer Training at Goodfellow AFB in San Angelo, TX.

Once Nelson finished training there, he was assigned to Joint Base Lewis-McChord as the Director of Intelligence for the 22nd Special Tactics Squadron.

Nelson was serving on his third tour in Afghanistan as the Special Tactics Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance liaison. While assisting a combat controller assigned to a 7th Special Forces Group ODA, Nelson was hit by a 107mm rocket and suffered a spinal cord injury from the blast.

In addition to that injury, Nelson also suffered severe shrapnel wounds, multiple spinal fractures, severe tissue damage to his left ankle, collapsed lungs, major shrapnel damage to his torso and lower extremities, and severely bruised organs. He also underwent a massive blood transfusion and tracheotomy, and suffered numerous other injuries.

Nelson spent 18 months in physical therapy, underwent 9 surgeries, and 46 units of blood. His injuries left him paralyzed from the chest down.

Nelson served 9 years honorably in the USAF and retired in November of 2015.

For his service to the country, Nelson received the Meritorious Service Medal, Purple Heart, Air Force Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal, among many others.

Nelson has not let his injuries dampen his tenacious spirit or hinder him from continuing to serve his country. He currently holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Intelligence Studies, and an MBA in Finance. Nelson also helps countless veterans and active duty members by serving as my Deputy Director of Military Affairs for Florida's First Congressional District. His guidance and expertise is an invaluable asset to me and my team. His determination, bravery, and fortitude are an inspiration to all who are blessed to know and work with him.

To honor his great sacrifice for our country, Nelson will be gifted a mortgage-free home from nonprofit Building Homes for Heroes, an organization that builds and modifies homes to gift mortgage-free to wounded veterans and their families. Nelson, his wife Jennifer, and their daughter Eva will be welcomed into their new home for the very first time in Santa Rosa Beach, FL.

I would like to extend my gratitude to Nate and his family for all they've sacrificed for their country and their community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize and honor Nathan Nelson, Jen, and Eva, and congratulate them on their well-deserved, new home.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND
SERVICE OF RUTH BANCROFT

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2017

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Ruth Bancroft, renowned expert on drought-tolerant plants, founder of the Ruth Bancroft Garden, and resident of Walnut Creek.

Ruth had a keen intellect and an insatiable curiosity about plants and nature. She collected and categorized seashells and planted flower gardens around the home she shared with her husband and three children on the Bancroft property.

With the help of the New York-based Garden Conservancy, the Bancroft family formed the nonprofit Ruth Bancroft Garden on Bancroft Road which is protected by a conservation easement. It opened to the public in the early 1990s. In August, the garden broke ground on a visitor and education center with space for events and classes as well as offices for staff. Ruth worked in the garden every day until she was 97 years old.

Ruth was an inspiration and a friend. She was a stalwart in the Contra Costa community and we shared a passion for conservation and the environment. She passed away on November 26, 2017 at the age of 109. She is survived by her children Peter Bancroft, Nina Dickerson and Kathy Hidalgo and four grandchildren. Her friend, family, and our community will miss her dearly.

CONGRATULATING ROCK ISLAND,
ILLINOIS FOR BEING NAMED A
PROJECT WINNER FOR THE 2017
GOVERNOR'S HOMETOWN AWARD

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2017

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rock Island, Illinois for being named a project winner for the 2017 Governor's Hometown Award due to its outstanding Kids Invested in Natural Growth (KING) Program.

The Kids Invested in Natural Growth Program is provided by the Martin Luther King Center. The program provides a variety of activities for youth ages 6 through 18, including homework help, sports and recreation, service learning, mentoring, life skills, and character development. The program's goal is to provide safe and enriching activities and encourage academic success. The Kids Invested in Natural Growth Program reaches approximately 1,200 kids each year. Thirty-five dedicated volunteers make the yearlong commitments to the sports component. An additional 15 volunteers are involved in the afterschool and summer programs.

The generous and caring volunteers and leaders of the Kids Invested in Natural Growth (KING) Program in the City of Rock Island make me especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Rock Island, Illinois for being