BLAIR OAKS FOOTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Blair Oaks Falcons Football Team on their victory in the Class 2 State Championship.

Blair Oaks claimed the Class 2 title in 2004, 2006, 2018, and now in 2022. To secure their win, the Falcons endured a grueling 15-week season and won in a nail-biting game with a fourth quarter defensive stop. The Falcons should be commended for all their hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Blair Oaks Falcons for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING STEPHEN P. DAILEY, P.E., GENERAL MANAGER OF THE FAIRFAX DRAINAGE DISTRICT OF WYANDOTTE COUNTY

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Stephen P. Dailey, Professional Engineer and General Manager of the Fairfax Drainage District of Wyandotte County for his exemplary professional accomplishments.

Mr. Dailey's career in public service began after graduating from the University of Missouri-Kansas City with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and becoming licensed as a professional engineer. He spent 14 years in the municipal well drilling industry prior to his time at Fairfax Drainage District.

Throughout Mr. Dailey's 30-year tenure as General Manager, he was responsible for protecting investments amounting to nearly $6 billion in a 2,000-acre industrial park. He oversaw preparations and guided flood control operations for multiple record-breaking high-water events, a highlight that only begins to scratch the surface of 3 decades working in honorable service to Kansas.

Beyond supervising operation and maintenance of complex flood projection system comprised of 5 miles of levee, over 100 relief wells, 12 pump stations and a computerized communications network, Mr. Dailey spent 27 years serving on the Fairfax Industrial Association Board of Directors and over fifteen years as an active board member and committee chair of the Missouri and Associated Rivers Coalition, promoting water resource management for effective flood control and navigation works.

I've also had the pleasure of working with Mr. Dailey while in Congress. Last year, I had the pleasure of sponsoring community project funding to perform maintenance of the Fairfax Jersey Creek Upper Levee. I commend Mr. Dailey for his dedication to our state and to our country, and the 120-plus businesses in the Kansas City, Kansas community he has tirelessly worked to support and protect.

STEVE CHABOT APPRECIATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, throughout my service in Congress, I have been grateful to serve with Representative STEVE CHABOT of Ohio, including our time together on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. I will never forget our CODELS including to both Russia and China, with the bipartisan House Armed Services delegation in 2002. He is a valued public servant, and I am eternally grateful for his more than 20 years of service to Ohio's 1st congressional district and to the nation.

Throughout his life, STEVE has been a dedicated public servant. Prior to being elected to Congress in 1994, he served as a City Councilman in his hometown of Cincinnati, Ohio, and as a Hamilton County Commissioner for five years each.

During his time on the House Committee on Small Business, including as Chairman, STEVE has been a positive force for change, advocating for taxpayers, protecting small businesses, and fighting back against excessive government spending and regulations. He was a pivotal member in the implementation of the Paycheck Protection Program, which aided small businesses and saved over 50 million jobs nationwide.

As co-chairman, his service for country caucuses made a difference for appreciative allies from Taiwan to Turkey. He tirelessly promoted warm relations with valued allies.

As a Senior member on the House Committee on the Judiciary, he sponsored legislation to combat the opioid epidemic, defend the rights of the unborn, fight against internet child exploitation, and increase resources for those facing mental health challenges.

Today I am grateful to honor his service to the American people and wish him and his wife Donna the best in their future endeavors.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE ERIC RODRIGUEZ, COUNCILMEMBER, CITY OF SAN MATEO, UPON THE CONCLUSION OF HIS PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Eric Rodriguez as he steps down from the San Mateo City Council after serving for five years and ten months, with one year as Mayor.

Eric grew up in neighboring Belmont. Upon moving to San Mateo, he eventually served as his neighborhood's representative to the San Mateo United Homeowners Association and as a member of the Aragon Neighborhood Association Board of Directors from 2013 through 2016. In 2015, he was appointed to the planning commission, serving until 2017.

In that year, he was elected to the San Mateo City Council. In his candidate's statement he argued for effective traffic planning to reduce gridlock, preservation of the neighborhood character of San Mateo, quality public safety and parks and recreation services, affordable housing and fiscal accountability. He received 6,266 votes.

Nowhere in his candidate statement did the word ''COVID'' appear.

Eric led San Mateo as Mayor from December 2020 to December 2021. These harsh times of pandemic required city services to be largely delivered remotely, city workers to support public health by arranging for testing and then early public vaccination sites, and an all-hands-on-deck approach to preserving public health. This included the difficult decision to enforce shut-down orders for public places. As the vital restaurant industry began to be devastated by the disease, Eric and his colleagues swiftly approved outside dining and offered financial support. When racial tensions rose because of actions in other cities that sparked nationwide outrage, Mayor Rodriguez spoke out on YouTube and stated that San Mateo stood united against hatred and all forms of racism. He also spoke in favor of the Police Athletic League (PAL), stating that building relationships between young people and the police was part of the solution to keeping fairness in the community.

During his time in office, Eric was a strong advocate for affordable housing developments to reduce income inequality in San Mateo. To his credit and that of his colleagues, a city parking lot near Caltrain is now under construction. Kiku Crossing is a 7-story apartment building that will offer 225 homes for those earning low incomes, and a new publicly accessible parking garage. This development could have been contentious, but Eric and his colleagues spent many hours educating the public about the benefits of this project.

Also begun during his term of office was a billion dollar+ upgrade to the city's wastewater treatment plant. It takes quite a bit of time to bring this kind of project to the stage of construction, but Eric and his colleagues supported an upgrade that is a credit to the objectives of the Clean Water Act and that will be a vital piece of public infrastructure for decades to come.

In his private life, Eric is presently the CEO of a health information website that he co-founded. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Police Activities League and the Rotary Club of San Mateo. He is a graduate of the Stanford Graduate School of Business where he received his M.B.A., and the University of California at Berkeley where he received his Bachelor of Science degree. He and his wife Shirley have one child, son Tyler. Now that he is leaving public life, there will be more personal time to enjoy with his family.

When the call of elective public service is made, most people turn a deaf ear. It then falls to a few to assume the reigns of authority, pursuant to endorsement via elections, and to bear the full commitment of time, energy and emotion on behalf of creating a better community for all. Eric Rodriguez answered the call, and the people of San Mateo are better because of his service. I wish Eric and his