

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING BRITTON'S
GOURMET BAKERY ON ITS 60TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I rise to proudly commend and congratulate Britton's Gourmet Bakery on its 60th anniversary, a remarkable milestone for a beloved small business that began its journey in 1965. Founded by Marie and Ray Britton in Stone Harbor, South Jersey, the bakery relocated to Wildwood Crest in 1992, where it continues to proudly operate today as a cherished, family-owned institution. Now in its third generation, my friend, Christa Linnington and her team, have remained committed to delivering the highest quality recipes, time-honored traditions, and exceptional service that have made it a cornerstone of the South Jersey community. For six decades, Britton's has delighted customers with freshly baked goods, including their famous cinnamon buns, gourmet donuts, Danishes, muffins, and French pastries so iconic, in fact, that President Ronald Reagan once requested a sample and later wrote back to say how much he enjoyed their fritters. The hardworking team at Britton's Bakery begins each day before sunrise, ensuring that their customers enjoy pastries that are not only fresh, but often still warm from the oven. I congratulate Britton's Gourmet Bakery on 60 years of excellence. May their legacy of quality, community, and service continue for generations to come. God bless Britton's Bakery, and God bless the United States of America, the greatest country on the face of the Earth.

CELEBRATING THE HAGAMAN
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPART-
MENT'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the Hagaman Volunteer Fire Department on the 100th anniversary of its founding and thank them for their tremendous dedication to protecting and serving the Village of Hagaman as well as the surrounding municipalities in Montgomery County.

Since its founding in 1925, the Hagaman Volunteer Fire Department has been at the forefront of combating disasters across Upstate New York. In addition to fighting fires, the Department protects the Hagaman community by responding to medical emergencies, motor vehicle accidents, rescue calls, and incidents involving hazardous materials. These brave men and women have gone above and beyond to ensure the safety and stability of not only their community, but the Mohawk Val-

ley as a whole. For a hundred years, they have faced challenges with unwavering resolve and compassion embodying the true spirit of civic virtue.

In addition to ensuring the safety and stability of the Village of Hagaman, the Department also plays a crucial role in fostering community development. Over the years, the Department has worked alongside their neighboring municipalities, strengthening relationships and creating long lasting bonds.

Today, the Hagaman Volunteer Fire Department boasts nearly sixty volunteers among its ranks, answering over five hundred emergency calls every year. As a testament to their growth and commitment, the Department has grown from a single firetruck station to its current size, boasting 6 fire trucks which are ready to answer the call at a moment's notice.

On June 7, 2025, the Hagaman Volunteer Fire Department will celebrate its 100th anniversary. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, it is an honor to recognize the generations of brave men and women who have volunteered with the Department. These extraordinary individuals have sacrificed their time and wellbeing to protect our upstate communities and I am proud to recognize their historic accomplishments and service.

HONORING KATRINA FOTOVAT

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with deep admiration and heartfelt gratitude to honor Katrina Fotovat, a fierce, compassionate, and tireless champion for the rights of women and girls around the world, as she marks her retirement from the U.S. Department of State.

For more than two decades, Katrina has been a driving force in embedding gender equity and equality into the fabric of American foreign policy. Her legacy is one of courage, conviction, and quiet, determined leadership in some of the most challenging arenas of global diplomacy and human rights work.

Katrina has served with distinction in numerous roles across the State Department: in the Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations, the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, at the U.S. Embassy in Moldova, the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, and at USAID. Most recently, she served as the Principal Deputy Director, and many times as the Acting Ambassador-at-Large, for Global Women's Issues, guiding the office through moments of great complexity with grace and resolve. Under her leadership, the Office of Global Women's Issues became a beacon for our partners around the world, showing what it means when the United States stands up for the dignity and rights of all people.

Her service has never been about recognition or accolades, it has been about impact.

Whether working with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, advocating through the International Human Rights Legal Clinic, or standing shoulder to shoulder with survivors of trafficking and violence, Katrina has always placed people, especially the most vulnerable, at the center of her work.

She has lifted up voices too often silenced, built bridges where there were none, and inspired a generation of women and girls to imagine a better, freer, and more just future.

On behalf of a grateful Nation, and with personal appreciation for her extraordinary dedication, I want to thank Katrina Fotovat for her years of service. She leaves behind a profound and lasting legacy that will continue to ripple across borders and generations.

We honor Katrina, we thank her, and we wish her joy, purpose, and continued impact in whatever comes next.

HONORING KENNETH FREED

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my constituent, Kenneth Freed.

Mr. Freed devoted his life to his family, his community, and his love of classical music. He started his career as a professional musician with the Manhattan String Quartet before relocating to Minnesota and earning a coveted position as violist with the Minnesota Orchestra, where he served for 27 years. Whether with the Minnesota Orchestra or on his own, Mr. Freed shared his love of music across Cuba, Europe, South Africa, and Vietnam, where he performed, gave lessons, and made new friends. Simultaneously, Mr. Freed served as the music director of the Mankato Symphony Orchestra and played viola with the Rosalyra String Quartet and the Isles Ensemble.

Mr. Freed also devoted himself to inspiring a love for classical music in younger generations. He co-founded the non-profit Learning through Music, which helped children improve their academic abilities through music. He helped secure state funding for music education in schools across Minnesota, and especially in communities struggling with historic disinvestment.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the life of Mr. Kenneth Freed alongside his family and friends.

RECOGNIZING ADELINA WILKS

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Adelina Wilks, an outstanding student-athlete from my district and a

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

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

recipient of the Olympiad Student Athlete Award. For seven years, Adelina has competed for Bridgeton High School with excellence and distinction—beginning with interscholastic middle school sports and continuing into a celebrated high school career filled with accolades and honors. But Adelina's achievements extend far beyond the athletic arena. She has maintained a GPA above 3.7 throughout her high school years, reflecting a strong commitment to academic excellence alongside her competitive spirit. Adelina brings a rare and powerful combination to every endeavor—a kind and friendly demeanor, a sharp wit, and an unwavering drive to succeed. She has consistently represented her school, her community, and above all, her family, with pride and honor. Supported by a strong foundation at home and guided by her own inner discipline, Adelina has become a role model for young athletes in South Jersey. I congratulate Adelina, on receiving the Olympiad Award, and thank her for inspiring those around her through her dedication and character. God bless Adelina Wilks, and God bless the United States of America, the greatest country on the face of the Earth.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND
ACHIEVEMENTS OF MASTER
SERGEANT STEVEN WILLIAMS

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate and recognize Master Sergeant Steven Williams for his appointment as the 41st Drum Major of "The President's Own" Marine Band.

Master Sergeant Williams, a native of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, graduated from Lampeter-Strasburg High School. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 2002, where he attended recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island in Beaufort, South Carolina. He later attended Marine Combat Training and the basic course at the Armed Forces School of Music in Little Creek, Virginia, as a trumpet player. From January to September 2005, he was deployed to the Al Anbar Province in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III.

Prior to joining "The President's Own", he was stationed with the 2D Marine Division Band at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina. He became Assistant Drum Major for "The President's Own" in April 2013, where he assisted in leading the band in ceremonial duties and oversaw unit training. As Drum Major, Master Sergeant Williams directs "The President's Own" in its duties, which include performing at ceremonies such as the inaugural parade, and reviews for the President, heads of State, and dignitaries.

I want to thank and congratulate Master Sergeant Williams for his invaluable service to our country at home and abroad, and for his appointment as 41st Drum Major of "The President's Own." I wish him continued success in his military service and further pursuits.

CELEBRATING U.S. GRADUATES OF
THE LATIN AMERICAN SCHOOL
OF MEDICINE (ELAM)

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend exceptional commitment of the 2025 graduating class from the Latin American School of Medicine (ELAM) in Havana, Cuba. These eleven courageous and compassionate individuals are now part of a legacy of global medical solidarity that began 25 years ago when Cuba offered full scholarships to students from underserved communities around the world, including the United States.

In partnership with the Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization (IFCO), the U.S. ELAM program has graduated 245 physicians since its inception. Many of these graduates come from communities that have historically been denied access to medical education. These individuals have chosen a career path focused on service rather than profit, prioritizing community health over personal comfort. Currently, 101 graduates are making significant contributions to public health across various fields, including integrative medicine, research, education, and nonprofit work. Additionally, 144 graduates are either fully licensed or participating in residency programs in over 30 U.S. States, with many practicing in areas designated as health professional shortage areas or medically underserved communities.

Seventy percent of the program's graduates are women, and eighty percent are Black and Brown, reflecting the diversity of the broader student body at the school as a whole.

These graduates faced unique challenges, including studying medicine in a second language, adapting to a different healthcare system, and navigating the geopolitical impacts of the U.S. blockade on Cuba. Despite these obstacles, they persisted. Their achievements are not just academic; they are also profoundly political, demonstrating what is possible when healthcare and medical education are recognized as fundamental human rights.

Mr. Speaker, during a time when our healthcare system struggles with racial and economic disparities, these doctors remind us that another model is possible—one founded on equity, internationalism, and public service.

On behalf of Mississippi's Second Congressional District, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the U.S. ELAM Class of 2025. May their work continue to heal, inspire, and remind us that solidarity can indeed save lives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in regard to missed votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 191; YEA on Roll Call No. 192; and YEA on Roll Call No. 193.

RECOGNIZING EMILY KUKAL

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to highlight the remarkable accomplishments of Emily Kukal, a standout student-athlete from my district and recipient of the Olympiad Student Athlete Award. Emily has been a shining example of excellence at Millville High School—both in the classroom and in competition. With a remarkable 4.8 GPA, she ranks second in a class of over 400 students, having completed eight Advanced Placement courses and earned numerous academic honors. She is also a proud member of the National Honor Society. On the athletic field, Emily has been just as impressive, earning eight varsity letters across three sports: soccer, swimming, and golf. Her ability to balance such high-level academics with outstanding athletic achievement speaks to her dedication, discipline, and character. Emily is not only an accomplished student and athlete—she is a future leader. Her talents and strong work ethic will no doubt continue to shine as she begins the next chapter of her journey at the United States Coast Guard Academy this fall. I thank Emily, for choosing a path of service to our Nation, and I have every confidence she will make an extraordinary officer and continue to make South Jersey proud. I congratulate Emily, and thank her for representing Millville and my entire district, with such great pride. God bless Emily and God bless our United States of America, the greatest country on the face of the Earth.

CONGRATULATING THE EAST PAL-
ESTINE FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR
150 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. MICHAEL A. RULLI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. RULLI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the East Palestine Fire Department, a pillar of our beloved Ohio community since 1875. It is a privilege to honor these firefighters who have dedicated themselves to keeping our village safe.

For 150 years, these brave men and women have put their lives on the line, responding to countless emergencies with unwavering courage. Beyond their role as first responders, they connect with our community daily and strengthen the bonds that make East Palestine a special place in which to live.

I also want to recognize their heroism during the 2023 train derailment. When disaster struck, with flames and toxic hazards threatening our village, they stepped up with incredible bravery. Their actions that night, and in the days that followed, will be remembered for generations to come.

The East Palestine Fire Department stands as a symbol of hope and resilience, meeting new challenges and staying true to their mission. Their work embodies the spirit of East Palestine, and I am proud to represent them.

I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the East Palestine Fire Department for

150 years of exemplary service and to wish them continued strength and success for many years to come.

HONORING W. DOUGLAS HOWLAND
FOR HIS SERVICE

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish Mr. W. Douglas Howland a happy 101st birthday and to thank him for his years of service to his country and his community.

Douglas enlisted after graduating from high school in 1942 and served in the Navy in World War II. For more than 3 and a half years, Douglas served on the aircraft carrier Essex in the Pacific as a radioman on a dive bomber. To this day, Douglas often shares stories of his time during World War II and expresses great pride in having served his country.

Beyond his service to his country, Douglas has been a leader in his community in several ways. Following his time in the Navy, Douglas attended St. Lawrence University, working part time on the railroad to provide for his family. After graduating from St. Lawrence University, Douglas continued to be an active member of his community. From 1962 to 1987, Douglas was a supervisor for the 9th Ward in the City of Watertown. After serving 25 years on the Board of Supervisors of Jefferson County, Douglas became Chairman of the Board in 1984 and was involved in the expansion of Fort Drum. Douglas was also president of the North Side Improvement League in the 1960s, during which he emphasized the value of education which manifested through the important role he played in the establishment of Jefferson Community College. After its establishment, Douglas joined the Board of Trustees for the college.

Douglas is also an active member in the Elks Club, the American Legion, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. At 100 years old, Douglas remains sharp and curious, eager to stay up to date on current events and follow elected officials on both a local and national scale. Douglas has lived an extraordinary and admirable life, always dedicated to serving those around him and being a leader to others.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I am honored and excited to celebrate W. Douglas Howland's 101st birthday and I thank him for his brave service in the Navy as well as the years of public service that followed.

RECOGNIZING THE BIRTHDAY OF
WILBERT D. PAYNE, JR.

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the birthday of Wilbert D. Payne, Jr. Mr. Payne turned 75 on July 13th.

Mr. Payne was born on July 13, 1950, and has devoted almost 50 years to serving his

community and country, becoming a historic figure in the City of Opelika and a respected voice among Alabama veterans and civic leaders. In 2016, he made history as the first African American elected Chairman of the City of Opelika Board of Zoning Adjustments, breaking barriers and fostering inclusive representation for the citizens of Opelika.

On February 17, 1970, Mr. Payne was drafted into the United States Army at the age of 19, serving with valor in the Vietnam War and later continuing his service through the U.S. Army Reserve and the Army National Guard until his medical retirement in 2004.

As former Commander of the Disabled American Veterans Twin Cities Chapter 95, he spearheaded the Vietnam War 50-Year Commemoration in Central Alabama, organizing the first ceremony of its kind in Lee County in 2016 and ensuring hundreds of veterans were honored and presented with commemorative pins and the public gratitude they had long deserved. He became an advocate for veterans' rights, mental health care, and public recognition for Vietnam veterans who, like himself, returned home without fanfare or acknowledgment.

His civic service roles include: Chief Voting Inspector for Lee County at the Covington Recreation Center, Chairman and member of the City of Opelika Zoning Board, Member of 100 Black Men of America, Inc., Greater Auburn-Opelika Chapter, where he served as All Pro Dad's Chairperson for Carver Primary School and West Forest Intermediate School, Longtime coordinator of the Lions Tamers Social and Civic Club's Family Fun Day/Juneteenth Celebration, Certified Member and Volunteer with the American Red Cross for 19 years, including service as a former Shelter Manager on the Disaster Action Team (DAT), Board Member of the Greater Peace Church Community Development Corporation, Facilities Coordinator for the J.W. Darden Foundation, Member of the Opelika-Auburn News Editorial Board, Board Member of the Lee-Russell County Council on Aging, Active with People of Action for Community Enrichment and recipient of the Arthur Hill Community Service Award (2023).

Mr. Payne retired from the City of Opelika Engineering Department (1990 to 2000) after previous employment with the Augusta Environmental Company (1981 to 1989) and Diversified Products (1976 to 1980), while balancing his long and honorable military service in U.S. Army (1970 to 1971) and Army Reserve (1971 to 2000). He is supported by his loving wife, BBB4 Wilbert D. Payne, Jr., and has been blessed with 4 children and 12 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mr. Payne on this milestone and wishing him a very happy birthday.

RECOGNIZING SPECIALIST
WILLIAMS MARES

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege of speaking about Major Steven Mares, and now I want to talk about the bravery of his youngest son, Specialist William

Mares. William is a senior at Central Regional High School, where he serves with distinction as the Cadet Battalion Commander of the school's Junior ROTC program, the Golden Eagle Battalion. Recently, William followed in his father's footsteps by enlisting in the U.S. Armed Forces. He will soon begin basic training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, the very same base where his father trained. After that, he will be stationed in Arizona, the place he was born when his father was based there, a powerful full-circle moment that speaks to the deep military tradition within the Mares family. William has also been accepted to begin advanced individual training at the Defense Language Institute, where he will spend 18 months studying Arabic. Upon completing his training, he plans to pursue a Ph.D. in linguistics and continue his journey in the U.S. Army, proudly walking the same path of service and excellence his father has traveled. William's ambition, discipline, and devotion to his country are truly inspiring, and I have no doubt that his future is bright and filled with purpose. May God bless William and God bless our United States of America, the greatest country on the face of the planet.

RECOGNIZING BECKY KOENIG

HON. RANDY FEENSTRA

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Becky Koenig and congratulate her on her retirement after nearly 40 years in education.

Since 1984, Becky has invested in the education of generations of Iowans across the communities of Sumner, Forest City, Lake Park, and Spencer. Her leadership and dedication to the classroom have left a lasting impact on each student, teacher, and faculty member that has had the pleasure of working, teaching, and learning alongside her.

In addition to teaching, Becky has spent 38 years as a speech coach, guiding students in competition. As a head coach, she contributed to Spencer High School's 50-year streak of sending at least one group to the Iowa All-State Festival.

Outside of the classroom, Becky was known to be a tireless advocate for her fellow educators and students, a true leader. As an Instructional Mentor Coach, she formally mentored many teachers and informally guided countless others with the years of experience and wisdom she accrued.

Becky was one of those educators who had a lasting impact not just on her students' education, but on their lives. Students from the past still reach out to her to chat, grab lunch, and thank her for the role she played in their formative years. She has inspired thousands of Iowans with her work, leaving a legacy that colleagues will look fondly back upon and future educators will look towards as a model for their careers.

As she begins this next chapter in her life, I would like to thank Becky for the incredible work she has done for the state of Iowa—and our great Nation. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Becky Koenig for a remarkable career and wishing her all the best in retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I missed yesterday's votes due to weather delays. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 191; YEA on Roll Call No. 192; and YEA on Roll Call No. 193.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. YUNG PATE, JR.

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life and legacy of Mr. Yung Pate, Jr., a proud veteran, respected professional, and devoted community leader, whose contributions have left a lasting mark on the city of Chicago and beyond.

Mr. Pate answered the call to serve his country during the Korean War, carrying out his duties in the United States Army with honor, courage, and steadfast dedication. His service reflected the strength of character and deep sense of duty that would define the rest of his life.

Following his military service, Mr. Pate built a distinguished career in the security field. Known for his dedication to his clients and employees, as well as his exceptional service and professionalism, he became a trusted and admired figure throughout the region. His work helped shape Chicago's security industry, and his legacy continues to inspire a new generation of professionals, including the hundreds he mentored and employed, to follow in his footsteps and uplift others.

Mr. Pate's commitment to service extended far beyond his profession. Throughout his life, he remained deeply engaged in his community, dedicating himself to public service, mentorship, community engagement, and generosity.

Above all, Mr. Pate was a devoted family man. He is survived by his beloved wife, Mrs. Dolores Thibodeaux-Pate, and the cherished Pate family, who continue to uphold his legacy of service and excellence.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the cherished life of Yung Pate, Jr.

RECOGNIZING NICHOLAS "NICKY" BACSIK

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Nicholas Bacsik, an outstanding young man whose hard work and character have earned him the rank of Eagle Scout. For his Eagle Scout project, Nicky designed and built four standing workshop tables at Cloverdale Farms County Park in Barnegat, South Jersey. These tables now complete an outdoor teach-

ing space where children will learn about environmental stewardship and conservation, a legacy that will benefit the community for the years to come. But Nicky's path to Eagle wasn't just about one project. It was about perseverance, leadership, and inner strength. In September of 2023, Nicky faced an unimaginable loss when his older brother, Danny, also an Eagle Scout, was tragically killed while riding his bike at the University of Delaware. The grief was overwhelming, and at one point, it wasn't clear if Nicky would continue his Scouting journey. But he did, and not just for himself. He pressed on with even greater determination, knowing that Danny would have wanted him to reach the milestone. That strength, that resilience, and that sense of purpose is what being an Eagle Scout is all about. I am proud of all that Nicky has accomplished, and even more proud of the man he is becoming. God bless Nicky, and God bless our United States of America, the greatest country on the face of the Earth.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ROBERT L. "BOB" HANLEY

HON. PETE STAUBER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Seaman Second Class Robert L. "Bob" Hanley, the last living survivor of the sinking of the USS *Houston* (CA-30) in the Sunda Strait off the coast of Java on February 29, 1942, ending the storied U.S. Asiatic Fleet.

As one of only 368 of the ship's complement of 1,060 to survive this sea battle, he showcased American grit, tenacity, and commitment in the fight against fascism and tyranny. He endured multiple POW camps, "hell ships" to Singapore and Burma, and slave labor on the infamous Thai-Burma Death Railway.

His nearly four years of as a POW of Japan were marked by starvation, torture, and beatings. As a POW medical orderly, he labored without medicines and supplies to save the lives of his fellow brutalized POWs. He, himself, survived bouts of dysentery, malaria, and pellagra. At liberation in August 1945, he was among just 291 remaining USS *Houston* (CA-30) survivors.

Bob's resilience never wavered, and his service did not end with his Navy discharge in 1947. He continued serving his country by enlisting in the U.S. Army for 15 years. After his military career, he worked in security at 3M for another 15 years, retiring in 1978 due to medical issues caused by his wartime imprisonment.

Throughout his life, Bob's deep faith as a devout member of the Catholic Church of Saint Peter in Forest Lake, Minnesota, guided him through the darkest times and brightest moments, serving as a cornerstone of his strength. On September 12, 2024, Seaman Second Class Robert L. Hanley passed away at 102 years old. May he rest in peace.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF LUCILLE HIRSH HART

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include in the Record the following proclamation celebrating the 100th Birthday of Lucille Hirsh Hart.

Whereas, Lucille Hirsh Hart was born on June 21, 1925, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to Lena and Joel Hart, and has spent a century inspiring those around her with her strength, dedication, and love;

Whereas, Lucille built a beautiful life rooted in family, raising four children with devotion and care while serving as an outstanding mother and homemaker;

Whereas, she also dedicated herself to a distinguished career in medical records, ultimately serving as the head of Medical Records at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, a major teaching institution in downtown Philadelphia, where she contributed to the health and well-being of countless patients and supported generations of medical professionals;

Whereas, Lucille has long been an ardent supporter of the State of Israel and the Jewish people, instilling her deep sense of heritage, culture, and commitment in her children and numerous grandchildren;

Whereas, in 1993, Lucille moved to Florida, where she continues to live independently in her own home in Delray Beach, bringing joy, wisdom, and warmth to all who know her;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Lois Frankel, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, do hereby recognize and celebrate the 100th birthday of Lucille Hirsh Hart.

Let it be known that Lucille's life stands as a shining example of service, resilience, and enduring love for family and community. We honor her remarkable century of life and the legacy she continues to build.

Happy 100th Birthday.

HONORING MR. GREGORY J. ZAGAR FOR HIS DECADES OF SERVICE

HON. ELISE M. STEFANK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Ms. STEFANK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Gregory J. Zagar for his decades of dedicated service with the United States Air Force and the Air Force Research Laboratory in Rome, New York.

In 1974, Mr. Zagar enlisted in the United States Air Force and served until 1982, when after 8 years of service he was honorably discharged, he joined the U.S. Air Force Reserve at Griffiss Air Force Base in Rome, New York, where he would continue to serve at the rank of Captain until 1985. From 1985 to 1996, Mr. Zagar served as part of the New York Air National Guard based at Hancock Field, where he earned the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and returned to the U.S. Air Force Reserve at Hanscom Air Force Base, having achieved the title of Colonel.

Since 2004, Mr. Zagar has served in several leadership positions in the Computing and Communications Division at the Air Force Research Laboratory in Rome, New York. The

Computing and Communications Division is responsible for the discovery, development, and integration of affordable trusted systems, high-performance computing, network systems, and quantum processing and communications for our air, space, and cyberspace domains. His leadership roles within the division included branch chief for six different mission branches across both the Information Directorate and Sensors Directorate, under titles such as Assistant Division Chief, Deputy Division Chief, and Division Chief. In his current role as Division Chief, Mr. Zagar oversees over 120 scientists, engineers, and staff as well as the execution of \$425 million via guidance on defining, budgeting, and managing diverse technical areas.

Among his incredible contributions to Air Force Research is Mr. Zagar's introduction and establishment of a new mission branch within the Computing and Communications Division of the AFRL/RI for Quantum Information Sciences and Technology (known as RITQ). RITQ has played a critical role in establishing and maintaining the world-class facilities for building, testing, and demonstrating the capabilities of new technologies to meet warfighters' current and anticipated future needs. Additional assets expanded and improved due to Mr. Zagar's unwavering dedication include the 300-acre "Controllable Contested Environment" Stockbridge facility, the 78-acre Newport "Upside-Down Air Force," the Extreme Computing Facility, and the Communication System & Technologies Laboratory. Mr. Zagar even came up with the vision and led collaboration on the concept, design, and construction for the Innovare Advancement Center, which succeeded in creating an open research environment where government engineers can partner with industry and academia to advance technology.

Mr. Zagar has been recognized for his outstanding accomplishments and contributions to the United States Air Force over his many years of service at bases in New York's 21st district. His awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, two Commendation Medals, two Achievement Medals, the Combat Readiness Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, which he has received five times. Mr. Zagar has used his experience as a pilot and warfighter with the United States Air Force, U.S. Air Force Reserve, and New York Air National Guard to contribute to the advancement of warfighter command and control technology, ultimately playing a tremendous role in shaping our current world-class computing and communications facilities and engineers.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I would like to commend Mr. Gregory J. Zagar for his tremendous contribution to our district through his work for the United States Air Force Research Laboratory in Rome, New York. I am proud to honor Mr. Zagar for his outstanding accomplishments and thank him for his over 40 years of service and commitment to the advancement of computing and communication technology for the United States Air Force.

RECOGNIZING SYDNEY PRINCE

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I rise to proudly recognize Sydney Prince, a remarkable young leader who, after six years of steadfast effort, has achieved the distinguished honor of becoming an Eagle Scout. Sydney is the youngest member of a group of 10 girls who make up Troop 452, and since the troop's founding in 2019, she has played an instrumental role in building it into the strong community it is. Her passion for health sciences is evident in everything she does. Just this past summer, she interned with Galloway Emergency Medical Services, where she gained firsthand experience serving her community. It was through this experience that she came up with the idea for her Eagle Scout project, which was a relaxation spot for these local heroes after a long shift, or difficult incident. Sydney designed, planned, and oversaw the construction of a beautiful paver patio behind the Galloway EMS station she interned at. This new space offers first responders a place to relax and regroup after long shifts and challenging calls, a gift that honors their service and supports their well-being. Sydney graduates this month from the Atlantic County Institute of Technology, and she plans to pursue higher education and a career in health sciences. With her compassion, work ethic, and commitment to service, I have no doubt she will continue to be a tremendous asset to her community and to our country. God bless Sydney and God bless our United States of America, the greatest country on the planet.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE ALPENA COMMUNITY COLLEGE REMOTELY OPERATED VEHICLE TEAM

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary achievements of the Alpena Community College remotely operated vehicle (ROV) team, known as the Aquajacks, who recently represented Michigan's First Congressional District with distinction at the 2025 Marine Advanced Technology Education Remotely Operated Vehicle World Championship hosted in Alpena, Michigan.

These talented students, who both live and study in Northern Michigan, demonstrated remarkable ingenuity, teamwork, and technical skill on the international stage, earning an impressive third-place finish against nearly 80 teams from 22 states and 18 countries. After months of designing, testing, and problem-solving, at the competition, the Aquajacks' ROV successfully completed complex technical tasks while the team impressed judges with their professional presentations and real-time strategic thinking.

Their performance stands as a testament to Alpena Community College's commitment to hands-on STEM education and development of real-world skills. I want to commend the

Aquajacks' mentor, David Cummins, and the entire Alpena Community College Faculty for fostering such excellence.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize the Alpena Community College Aquajacks. These students not only represent the future of my district but also highlight the critical role skilled innovators play in strengthening our nation's infrastructure and advancing our national security. Their achievements remind us that effective investment into STEM education is essential to maintaining America's leadership and resilience on a rapidly changing world stage.

HONORING DR. SOLANGES VIVENS

HON. SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD the following proclamation honoring Dr. Solanges Vivens.

Whereas, Born in Haiti and inspired by the wise, enduring strength of the turtle, Dr. Solanges Vivens immigrated to the United States and devoted over four decades to advancing healthcare and business leadership; and

Whereas, Rising from a non-English-speaking factory worker, to a renowned healthcare executive, author and advocate; Dr. Vivens embodies perseverance, courage, and visionary leadership; and

Whereas, Her academic achievements including a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Long Island University, a Master's in Health Services Administration from Georgetown University, and a Doctorate in Humane Letters from Voorhees College, epitomize her lifelong commitment to education, leadership, and service; and

Whereas, Dr. Vivens has received numerous accolades recognizing her achievements, including the D.C. Health Care Association Leadership Award, Nelson Mandela Children's Fund Award, Hope Giver Award, and the Champion of Women Award, a Miami-Dade Public County Schools Proclamation, the city of North Miami's "Dr. Solanges Vivens Day", and induction into the Island Space Caribbean Museum, each honoring her service to women, children, and underserved communities worldwide; and

Whereas, Through her acclaimed works, *Girls Can Move Mountains*, *A Revelation*, and *Educated Girl*, Empowered Woman, Dr. Vivens uplifts Haitian youth and shares stories of resilience, while serving as a beacon of hope and healing, representing the Caribbean and African diaspora at international forums like the Global Leaders Women's Conference in Dubai and the Venice Film Festival; and

Therefore, be it resolved that we, Florida's 20th Congressional District, in celebration of Caribbean-American Heritage Month, proudly honor Dr. Solanges Vivens for her extraordinary contributions to healthcare, women's empowerment, education, humanitarian advocacy, and Caribbean excellence.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHIP ROY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately missed one Roll Call vote due to travel delays.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 191.

HONORING NOAH SARNOFF

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Noah Sarnoff, an exceptional student-athlete from my district who has been awarded the Olympiad Student Athlete by the Jewish War Veterans. Established in 1972, this award honors the memory of the 11 Israeli athletes tragically killed during the Munich Olympics and celebrates the academic and athletic excellence of remarkable high school students. Noah exemplifies those values. A proud representative of Vineland High School, he has consistently excelled both in the classroom and in athletics, balancing a demanding academic schedule with a standout athletic career. On the soccer field, Noah is a four-year varsity player and two-year team captain. He leads with talent, integrity, and a spirit of sportsmanship that sets him apart. He treats teammates and opponents with respect, leads by example, and represents his school and community with pride. His lasting impact comes not only from his performance, but from the way he uplifts and inspires those around him. Noah truly embodies the spirit and values that the Olympiad Award was created to honor. I congratulate Noah, and thank him for making South Jersey proud. God bless Noah and God bless our United States of America, the greatest country on the face of the Earth.

CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMBROSIO GUILLEN TEXAS STATE VETERANS HOME

HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Ambrosio Guillen Texas State Veterans Home located in El Paso, Texas.

The Ambrosio Guillen Texas State Veterans Home opened its doors to veterans, their spouses, and Gold Star parents in 2005 to provide long-term care for those in need of specialty care.

Ambrosio Guillen Home has provided quality and outstanding care to thousands of distinguished veterans, ensuring that a welcoming, safe, and enjoyable stay is provided. The care center focuses on medical and social needs, along with treatment plans that prioritize creativity and expression.

I am incredibly thankful to the medical professionals and staff of the Ambrosio Guillen Texas State Home for their dedication and tireless work to provide care and attention to our veterans and their families. The long-term care facility would not be what it is today without them.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring the Ambrosio Guillen Texas State Vet-

erans Home for their 20 years of service and their profound support to our Texas Veterans and families.

HONORING AND COMMENDING CAPTAIN MICHAEL TIBALDO, FIRST OFFICER JAMES KIM, DONNELL MITCHELL, AND JACLYN CURRY

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD, the following proclamation honoring and commending Captain Michael Tibaldo, First Officer James Kim, Donnell Mitchell, and Jaclyn Curry on the emergency landing at the University of North Carolina Rex Hospital.

Whereas, on Sunday April 6, 2025, the crew members of Republic Flight 4711, Captain Michael Tibaldo, First Officer James Kim, Donnell Mitchell, and Jaclyn Curry saved the life of Congressman Donald Norcross; and,

Whereas, during Republic Flight 4711 the Honorable Congressman Norcross endured a sudden medical emergency that required immediate medical attention, and the crew members of the Republic Flight 4711 acted swiftly to orchestrate an emergency plane landing, and the Honorable Congressman Norcross's transportation to the University of North Carolina Rex Hospital; and,

Whereas, had it not been for the professional, capable, and flawless work of the crew members of Republic Flight 4711, Congressman Donald Norcross would have died that day; and,

Whereas, Captain Michael Tibaldo, First Officer James Kim, Donnell Mitchell, and Jaclyn Curry are continuing to keep passengers safe, and representing the International Brotherhood of Teamsters honorably; therefore,

Be it known to all that the undersigned hereby honors Captain Michael Tibaldo, First Officer James Kim, Donnell Mitchell, and Jaclyn Curry.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHRI THANEDAR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. THANEDAR. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 191; YEA on Roll Call No. 192; and YEA on Roll Call No. 193.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT CORCORAN

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, one of the most commendable milestones a young man can reach is earning the rank of Eagle Scout. This past weekend, I had the distinct honor of congratulating Robert Corcoran on achieving this prestigious award. Robert's journey began in 2012 when he earned his first Cub Scout

rank of Bobcat. Over the past decade, through dedication, perseverance, and strong character, he climbed the ranks and ultimately attained the highest honor of Eagle Scout. Along the way, Robert earned 34 merit badges, including the Light of Christ Award, a testament to his deep and abiding faith in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. For his Eagle Scout project, Robert demonstrated compassion and creativity by upcycling 31 insulated coolers into feral cat shelters. These shelters were distributed through the Homeward Bound Pet Adoption Center, providing warmth and protection to South Jersey's stray cat population during the harsh winter months. I congratulate Robert on this remarkable achievement. With his unwavering faith, tireless work ethic, and heart for service, there is no doubt in my mind, he will thrive in all his future endeavors. God bless Robert and God bless our United States of America, the greatest country on the face of the Earth.

CELEBRATING FULTON UNITED SOCCER CLUB'S FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Fulton United Soccer Club in Gloversville, New York and congratulate them on their fifty-year anniversary.

The Fulton United Soccer Club is a non-profit soccer league that has given students from Pre-K to 7th grade an opportunity to play soccer since 1975 and currently has 544 children signed up to participate in the club's spring season. Students are coached in a wide range of soccer skills from teamwork to advanced ball coordination by parent volunteers, many of whom were players themselves.

The legacy of this recreational soccer league is truly admirable and contributes to our district through its commitment to providing athletic opportunities to our youth, which is made possible by the enthusiasm and generosity of members of our community.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I would like to acknowledge and appreciate the Fulton United Soccer Club for its tremendous positive impact on so many children in our communities for so many years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL TONKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 191; YEA on Roll Call No. 192; and YEA on Roll Call No. 193.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAHANA HAYES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mrs. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I was unavailable to vote because I was stuck on the tarmac at DCA. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 191; YEA on Roll Call No. 192; and YEA on Roll Call No. 193.

RECOGNIZING DANIEL McCLAVE

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Daniel McClave, whose extraordinary commitment and character have earned him the highest honor in the Boy Scouts of America, the Eagle Scout. Daniel began his Scouting journey twelve years ago, steadily advancing through the Cub Scout ranks, achieving the rank of Scout in 2019, before his resilience, dedication, and selfless service led to the achievement of Eagle Scout this past December. Throughout his time in Scouting, Daniel earned an impressive 41 merit badges and was awarded four Eagle Palms—a clear reflection of his extraordinary determination to exceed expectations and lead by example. For his Eagle Scout project, Daniel transformed a storage room at Clayton High School into a fully functional and accessible food bank, ensuring that students and families in need had a reliable source of support and nourishment. Even after achieving the rank of Eagle, Daniel's service did not stop. He has continued to give back by serving as an Assistant Scoutmaster and Merit Badge Counselor, guiding and mentoring the next generation of Scouts with the same wisdom, integrity, and leadership that defined his own journey. I congratulate Daniel on this outstanding achievement. His leadership, generosity, and commitment to his community are inspiring. My district and the Boy Scouts of America are better because of young men like him. God bless Daniel and God bless our United States of America, the greatest country on the face of the Earth.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RASHIDA TLAI

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Ms. TLAI. Mr. Speaker, I was not present during votes on Monday, July 14, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 191; NAY on Roll Call No. 192; and PRESENT on Roll Call No. 193.

CELEBRATING THE MINNESOTA FRISBEE ASSOCIATION'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and recognize the Minnesota Frisbee Association (MFA) on their 50th anniversary. Since their founding on July 19, 1975, the Minnesota Frisbee Association has been recognized nationally and internationally as one of the most innovative and successful flying disc clubs.

The Minnesota Frisbee Association has been a trailblazer in Minnesota, building a foundation on the principles of education, communication, community, and competition. They created the MFA Sport Development Grant Program to educate, expand, and increase accessibility to the sport across Minnesota. As a result, the grants have created a boom in frisbee infrastructure, programming, and organizational support across the state.

The Minnesota Frisbee Association has also partnered with sports teams such as the Minnesota Twins, Minnesota Vikings, and Minnesota's ultimate frisbee team, Wind Chill. They have leveraged these relationships to engage enthusiasts across the state, host local, national, and international competitions, and create a lasting and dedicated community among neighbors and athletes.

Members of the Association can be found competing with their friends and neighbors, or in the Hall of Fame for their contributions to the sport. This dedication to the flying disc community is seen off the field—they engage and uplift their neighbors by donating and fundraising for various local and national charitable causes.

Minnesota Frisbee Association is an example of dedication and passion not only to the sport, but also to their community. Please join me in celebrating the enduring achievements of Minnesota Frisbee Association throughout their 50 years.

CELEBRATING THE 107TH BIRTHDAY OF ALBERTA BAILEY

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD the following proclamation celebrating the 107th Birthday of Alberta Bailey.

Whereas, Alberta Bailey was born July 5, 1918, and has spent a century inspiring those around her with her strength, dedication, and love;

Whereas, Alberta built a beautiful life as the matriarch of the family, rooted in love with devotion and care while serving as an outstanding mother.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Lois Frankel on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, do hereby recognize and celebrate the 107th birthday of Alberta Bailey.

Let it be known that Alberta's life stands as a shining example of service, resilience,

and enduring love for family and community. We honor her remarkable century of life and the legacy she continues to build.

Happy 107th Birthday.

HONORING JOHN T. GOLDEN, SR.

HON. ELISE M. STEFANK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Ms. STEFANK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Navy veteran John T. Golden, Sr.

John T. Golden, Sr. was born in the Bronx, New York, on April 11, 1926. He graduated from Long Beach High School and attended CW Post College before enlisting in the U.S. Navy on February 5, 1943. John was trained in Diesel Mechanics, Demolitions, and was submarine qualified. After beginning his military career as a Fireman, he went on to serve as a Motor Mechanics Mate.

During World War II, John was stationed at forward Naval Amphibious Assault bases in England and served aboard an LST ship during the D-Day Invasion and subsequent transport operations. Later, he was assigned to the transport ship USS General Leroy Eltinge for Operation Magic Carpet, which took him to China before being transferred to the USS General W.F. Hase, which brought him back to the United States. Upon being honorably discharged on March 18, 1946, John was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Medal, the European Theater Medal, and the WWII Victory Medal.

Returning to civilian life, John built a family and a distinguished career. He married Geraldine K. Wood on September 1, 1951, and together they raised five children. John served 20 years with the Nassau County Police Department's 4th Precinct, working as a Detective in the Narcotics and Homicide Divisions. After retiring from the police department in 1972, John and Geraldine relocated to the Town of Day, New York. He then worked at the International Paper Company in Corinth until his retirement in 1988.

Outside of his professional life, John was deeply engaged in his community. He was a member and past Commander of the Hudson-Sacandaga VFW Post No. 5836, a member of the William J. Varney American Legion Post 862, and the Roosevelt Rod and Gun Club. His commitment to veterans' organizations and community activities reflected his lifelong dedication to service.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to recognize World War II Veteran and Motor Mechanics Mate John T. Golden, Sr.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL L. TESTA, SR.

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight the accomplishments of Michael L. Testa, Sr., a respected attorney and leader from South Jersey, who was recently awarded the

CEO Group's Lifetime Achievement Award. Michael is a Managing Partner at Testa Heck Testa & White, P.A., and has spent more than five decades building a legacy of legal excellence and public service. A certified civil and criminal trial attorney, he has been named to the lists of New Jersey Super Lawyers and Top Ten Lawyers more than ten times each—an extraordinary testament to his professional reputation and courtroom skill. But Michael's impact goes far beyond the courtroom. He has

dedicated his life to serving the people of South Jersey through various municipal and educational roles, including as solicitor for Buena Municipal Authorities Association, Deerfield Township, and Rowan College of South Jersey. His service on the boards of the Rehabilitation Hospital of South Jersey, Sun National Bank, and the Landis Theatre Foundation reflects a deep commitment to strengthening local institutions and opportunities. Michael's legacy is not only defined by his distin-

guished legal career but also by his selfless dedication to civic leadership, education, and charitable causes throughout Cumberland County. I congratulate Michael on this well-earned Lifetime Achievement Award, and thank him for his decades of service and commitment to South Jersey. May God bless Michael Testa, Sr., and may God bless the United States of America, the greatest country on the face of the Earth.