

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ALICE SMITH JONES ON
HER FIFTH JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the impactful life and remarkable dedication of Alice Smith Jones, an extraordinary educator and tireless activist whose commitment to fostering hope and empowering young minds has spanned decades. As we mark the anniversary of her fifth Juneteenth celebration, we take this opportunity to honor her inspiring journey.

Born in Chicago, Alice Smith Jones was raised in a home steeped in community service and activism. Her mother, a dedicated nurse, worked tirelessly in public schools, while her father served both the post office and the streets and sanitation department. Both of her parents were esteemed activists and community leaders, instilling in Alice the profound belief in making the world a better place.

Driven by a passion for learning and a desire to connect with others, Alice pursued higher education with zeal. She earned a bachelor's degree in fine arts from Columbia College, followed by a master's degree in education from Roosevelt University, and further specialized with a master's in Literacy from Northeastern University. This extensive academic journey laid the foundation for her distinguished career.

For an impressive thirty-three years, Alice Smith Jones has dedicated herself to the students of Chicago as a cherished public-school teacher. Her teaching philosophy is rooted in a deep desire to see the world become a better place, and she consistently finds profound hope when she sees noticeable growth in her students. She tirelessly instills in her students a strong sense of pride and identity, encouraging them to always find ways to improve themselves. Her classroom has been a beacon of inspiration, nurturing confidence and intellectual curiosity. Alice lives by the principle of finding what works for you and encourages others to live a principled life. Her commitment to personal growth and global understanding led her to significant milestones, including living and teaching in another country for three years. This transformative experience allowed her to truly find herself and broadened her perspective. Her dedication to excellence was further recognized when she became the recipient of a full Bright Scholarship and a Study Abroad opportunity, underscoring her exemplary achievements and thirst for knowledge.

Beyond her professional life, Alice Smith Jones is deeply engaged in her community. She is a proud member of Operation PUSH, actively involved with the Woodlawn Summit Organization, and serves on the Board of ETA. Furthermore, she acts as a consultant for the African Festival of the Arts and gener-

ously volunteers her time at various churches, demonstrating her relentless commitment to social and community upliftment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the extraordinary life and ongoing accomplishments of Alice Smith Jones, a tireless educator, a beacon of hope, and an inspiring leader whose dedication continues to enrich our Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF POLK CITY, FLORIDA

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate the 100th year anniversary of the City of Polk City, Florida.

Polk City, known locally as the Gateway to the Green Swamp, is in the northern part of Polk County, Florida. The city officially received its charter on April 3, 1925, thus marking the beginning of its formal governance and development.

Polk City was first settled in 1922 when Mr. Isaac Van Horn was traveling through Polk County and believed oil fields waited to be exploited. Mr. Van Horn was responsible for naming the town after President James K. Polk and increasing the population with new construction of oil rigs.

Today, Polk City is home to approximately 2,000 residents and remains a vibrant small town with a strong sense of community and rural charm. It is known for the General James A. Van Fleet Trail and beautiful lakes. As we commemorate this centennial milestone, we honor the generations who have shaped Polk City's legacy as a city built on resilience, agriculture, and a deep sense of community.

Happy Centennial, Polk City.

APPRECIATING ED FEULNER

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, America will always cherish the vision of Ed Feulner for limited government, expanded freedoms, and Peace Through Strength. Personally, on January 4, 2019, he sent me a note acknowledging his achievements, "Dear Joe, I'm honored. You're a real hero to all of us! Onward! Ed."

The following is from The Heritage Foundation on the loss of its Founder, Ed Feulner:

"WASHINGTON—The Heritage Foundation released the following statement today from Heritage President Dr. Kevin Roberts and Board of Trustees Chairman Barb Van Andel-Gaby, lauding the legacy and mourning the loss of Heritage Founder Edwin J. Feulner:

"It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of Edwin J. Feulner, founder, trustee, and the longest-serving president of The Heritage Foundation.

"Ed Feulner was more than a leader—he was a visionary, a builder, and a patriot of the highest order. His unwavering love of country and his determination to safeguard the principles that made America the freest, most prosperous nation in human history shaped every fiber of the conservative movement—and still do.

"Ed founded The Heritage Foundation in 1973, planting a flag for Truth in a town too often seduced by power. What started as a small outpost for conservative ideas became—under Ed's tireless leadership—the intellectual arsenal for the Reagan Revolution and the modern conservative movement. In the four decades that followed, Ed's foresight, discipline, and moral clarity made Heritage a battleship, unshaken by political winds and focused solely on fighting for the American people.

"After leading Heritage for 37 years as president, Ed continued to serve on our Board of Trustees, offering encouragement and sage advice in equal measure. Ed was an important mentor to us, respectively, and to all of those who had the honor of knowing him. In addition to his work at Heritage, he continued his active participation in many other conservative organizations.

"Whether he was bringing together the various corners of the conservative movement at meetings of the Philadelphia Society, or launching what is now the Heritage Strategy Forum, Ed championed a bold, "big-tent conservatism." He believed in addition, not subtraction. Unity, not uniformity. One of his favorite mantras was "You win through multiplication and addition, not through division and subtraction." His legacy is not just the institution he built, but the movement he helped grow—a movement rooted in faith, family, freedom, and the founding.

"His 'Feulnerisms' still resonate in the halls of Heritage—where they will always be remembered. 'People are policy,' for instance—the heartbeat of his mission—to equip, encourage, and elevate a new generation of conservative leaders, not just in Washington, but across this great country. And we still remember his adjuration to never be complacent or discouraged: 'In Washington, there are no permanent victories and no permanent defeats.'

"Ed himself seemed immune to discouragement. Every day was, for him, a new opportunity to strike a blow for freedom, to further the promise of America and make it a reality for all. His was a life of joyful defiance in the face of tyranny and bureaucratic decay—a life defined by courage, conviction, and the word he signed off with every single day: Onward!

"To his beloved wife, Linda, their children, and grandchildren—we extend our deepest prayers and condolences. And to Ed—we say thank you. Thank you for showing us what one faithful, fearless man can do when he refuses to cede ground in the fight for self-governance.

"The Heritage Foundation will honor Ed's life the best way we know how: by carrying his mission forward with courage, integrity, and determination. We will never forget his leadership, his example, or his favorite charge: "Onward. Always.""

• 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.

FRANCIS G. NEWLANDS MEMORIAL
REMOVAL ACT**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Francis G. Newlands Memorial Removal Act, which would remove the plaque and inscriptions on a fountain bearing Francis G. Newlands' name from Chevy Chase Circle, a federal park located in both the District of Columbia and Maryland. Representative JAMIE RASKIN of Maryland joins me in introducing this bill. and Senator CHRIS VAN HOLLEN of Maryland is the sponsor of the companion bill.

Newlands was a U.S. senator from Nevada, a conservationist and the founder of the Chevy Chase Land Company, which developed the Chevy Chase neighborhood that touches D.C. and Maryland. Newlands was also a segregationist. He built Connecticut Avenue and ran a streetcar up the road to the newly built Chevy Chase Lake. However, homes on Connecticut Avenue were purposely priced to keep working families out, and covenants were later added to many of the property deeds in Chevy Chase explicitly prohibiting the land from ever being owned by African Americans or Jews. These covenants have since been declared void. Newlands went further to keep Black and White Americans separate. In the late 1800s, he and Senator William Stewart secured 2,000 acres of land for Rock Creek Park. Establishing this park not only increased property values for landowners like Newlands and Stewart, but also kept White communities separate from emerging Black communities on what they called the "wrong side of the park." Newlands' racist views went even further. In 1912, he called for the repeal of the 15th amendment, which gave African-American men the right to vote.

The fountain in Chevy Chase Circle was established in 1932 by Congress. In 1990, the Chevy Chase Land Company added a plaque with Newlands' name next to the fountain. A resolution to remove Newlands' name from the fountain was first introduced by the D.C. Chevy Chase Advisory Neighborhood Commission in 2014. On July 27, 2020, the commission voted unanimously to ask the National Park Service (NPS) to remove the plaque bearing Newlands' name and to begin discussion on a new name for the fountain. On September 14, 2020, the Maryland Chevy Chase Village Board of Managers adopted a resolution calling on NPS and Congress to remove any mention of Newlands from the fountain. On April 19, 2022, the Montgomery County Council introduced a resolution affirming the county's support for this bill. Newlands should not be honored on federal land.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING MR. FRANK FIGGERS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a lifelong civil rights

activist, educator, and servant leader, Mr. Frank Figgers. A son of Mississippi, Mr. Figgers has dedicated his life to empowering communities, defending civil rights, and shaping a more just society.

Mr. Figgers is a graduate of Tougaloo College, Class of 1971, where his journey as a freedom fighter began through his work rooted with the Jackson Human Rights Project, founded by SNCC Field Organizer Howard Spencer. He played a foundational role in launching the Georgetown Liberation School, which evolved into the Black and Proud Elementary School, an institution rooted in liberation, pride, and academic excellence.

Throughout his life, Mr. Figgers has remained on the front lines of social transformation. He served eight years as Election Commissioner for Hinds County District 3, becoming the first African American elected to that post in his district. His professional career also includes 27 years at Sherwin-Williams Company as an Architectural Products Specialist, serving in key leadership positions. Additionally, he served as a Parent and Community Development Specialist at Lanier High School through the nationally recognized Algebra Project, working to close education gaps in underserved schools.

Currently, Mr. Figgers serves as Program Manager of Community Outreach and Education at One Voice, a non-partisan nonprofit committed to strengthening civic engagement, promoting voting rights, and advancing leadership development throughout Mississippi.

Mr. Figgers' commitment to education, youth development, and social justice extends through his leadership on multiple boards and advisory bodies. He is a longtime member of the Board of Trustees for the Jackson Public School District. He serves as Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Veterans of the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement (VMCRM), preserving the legacy and lessons of the Movement for future generations. He has served, since 1998, as a board member of the Young People's Project (YPP) in Jackson, an organization rooted in the legacy of the Algebra Project, which uses peer-to-peer math literacy and organizing as tools for youth empowerment.

Mr. Figgers is also a member of China Grove Lodge No. 110 of the M.W. Stringer Grand Lodge of MS, PHA. He is also a Life Member of the NAACP, demonstrating his enduring passion for justice and equality. Recently, Mr. Figgers was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Mississippi Historical Society.

Spiritually grounded and civically engaged, Mr. Figgers is a faithful member of Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Jackson, MS, serving as a deacon and the Chairman of Finance. He is the proud husband of Mrs. Laura Terrell Figgers and the devoted father of Fareeda Tobechei Figgers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Frank Figgers. His life reflects integrity, resilience, and a steadfast commitment to empowering others through education, activism, and service. Mississippi and this Nation are better because of him.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MASTER
SERGEANT JAMES GARNER, JR.**HON. MIKE EZELL**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. EZELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Master Sergeant James Edward (Jim) Garner, Jr., who passed on June 17, 2025, at the age of 88.

Born in Paulding, Mississippi in 1936, Jim served 27 years in the U.S. Army. He was deployed to places such as Korea, Vietnam, The Dominican Republic, Thailand, Cambodia, and more, retiring in 1980 as a Special Forces Master Sergeant.

He led operations under Colonel Charles Beckwith of Delta Force, and later taught ROTC at Marion Military Institute, where he created the school's first Orienteering Team.

His unmatched dedication is awarded and shown through his dozens of military honors and decorations.

Jim excelled at checkers and dominos, cooked delicious meals, loved outdoor pursuits, and kept a thriving garden.

He was known for being an avid reader and having a vast knowledge of old movies. But above all, he cherished his wife Margaret, and their big loving family.

Today we honor a life that was full of service, courage, mentorship, and love. Jim Garner was a true American Hero.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on July 21, 2025, I was unable to attend votes due to a travel issue. Had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call 213, and YEA on Roll Call No. 214.

HONORING OFFICER FRANCISCO
FLATTES**HON. CHUCK EDWARDS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life and sacrifice of Officer Francisco Flattes, a devoted detention officer in Cherokee County, North Carolina, who was killed in the line of duty on June 30, 2025.

Officer Flattes was more than just a public servant. He was a husband, a father, a grandfather, a colleague, and a friend to many. For four years, he served the Cherokee County Detention Center with unwavering commitment, ensuring that the rule of law was upheld with integrity and compassion.

Tragically, while performing his duties—escorting an inmate for medical care—Officer Flattes was killed in the line of duty in an act of senseless violence. He gave his life protecting others, and in doing so, reminded us all of the risks our law enforcement officers

face every single day when they put on the uniform.

Officer Flattes leaves behind a loving family, including his wife, who also serves as a detention officer, his children and grandchildren, and a son-in-law who wears the same badge in defense of our communities.

I extend my deepest condolences to the Flattes family and the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office. We honor his courage, his kindness, his dedication, and his memory. May we never forget the price that heroes like Officer Flattes pay so that we may live in safety and peace.

May God bless the Flattes family and may God bless all those who wear the badge in service to our communities.

HONORING TALÍA GLASS

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the years of dedicated public service of Talía Glass, a Senior Community Representative in my District Office. Ms. Glass has selflessly served Minnesota's 5th District for over six years—since my first day in Congress. She has proven herself to be an incredibly thoughtful, organized, and reliable public servant, and the people of the 5th District are better off because of her service.

Talía is a born and raised Minneapolis resident and her dedication to this city and the entire 5th District is exemplified in everything she does. Over the last six years, Talía has helped countless constituents through federal case-work assistance. She made sure small businesses were awarded the funding needed to stay open, fought for families' long-awaited tax returns, and ensured that individuals received their vital health insurance benefits. She organized major events to bring hundreds of constituents, advocates, and public officials together to tackle some of our community's biggest problems—the opioid crisis, Black maternal health, hospital stability, and so much more.

Along with her stellar casework record, Talía led my office's work on Community Project Funding. In just three years, Talía successfully managed our effort to bring home over fifty-four million dollars to the 5th District. She has a history of success, with every single project within her first three years being approved for funding. Her attention to detail, her reliability, and her dedication to quality work has served her well in her commitment to improving the lives of Minnesotans.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Talía for her years of remarkable public service during her time with the U.S. House of Representatives. It would be impossible for us to do this work without hardworking, compassionate staff supporting us. It has been a privilege to work with Talía and witness her accomplishments over the last six years, and I wish her the best in this new chapter of her career.

HONORING DEBORAH PORTER ON
HER 68TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the impactful life and multifaceted contributions of Deborah J. Porter, a distinguished media professional, passionate stylist, and dedicated community advocate. As she marks her birthday on July 21, 1957, we take this moment to honor her remarkable journey and enduring legacy.

Born in Port Gibson, Mississippi, and reared in Chicago from a very young age, Deborah J. Porter was shaped by the values of dedication and perseverance, instilled by her hardworking mother, a domestic worker, and her father, employed at a steel mill.

A proud alumna of Columbia College Chicago, Deborah earned her Bachelor of Arts in Television in 1980. During her senior year, impactful internships at WBMX and WLS proved instrumental in launching her illustrious career. Her commitment to community empowerment began at just eleven years old when she joined the choir of Operation Breadbasket, remaining actively involved through its successor, Rainbow PUSH. This organization profoundly shaped her character, discipline, and ambition, fueling her remarkable success.

Immediately after college, Deborah embarked on a decade-long career at V103FM (formerly WBMX-FM), evolving through various roles from receptionist to producer of "Sunday Morning Live," and later contributing to traffic, music research, and sales. Her talent then led her to Black Entertainment Television (BET), where she enjoyed a sixteen-year tenure, starting as the first Sales Service Planner and advancing to management for both the Midwest and West Coast offices. Her outstanding contributions earned her numerous awards.

Following her time at BET, Deborah freelanced at Burrell Communications before pursuing her passion for fashion. At Macy's flagship store on State Street in Chicago, her genuine care for people and standout personality made her the No. 1 Salesperson in the Midwest region. Today, Deborah continues to live with purpose, working part-time as an Ambassador at GCJ Hospitality and pursuing her love for styling, connecting with people and elevating their confidence through fashion.

Deborah remains deeply connected to civic and cultural life, maintaining affiliations with Rainbow PUSH, The Power of Women, the Black Women's Expo (BWe) Advisory Board, and the BET Alumni Reunion Committee. Of all her accomplishments, she is most proud of her role as a loving mother to her two beloved sons, Herman Porter III and Harrison Jeffrey Porter, and cherishes her partnership with her fiancé, Jerome "JJ" Jones.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the extraordinary life and ongoing accomplishments of Deborah J. Porter, a resilient professional, a community pillar, and an inspiring individual whose legacy of excellence, community engagement, and timeless style continues to enrich our Nation.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF MONTVERDE, FLORIDA

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Town of Montverde, Florida. Officially incorporated on May 18, 1925, Montverde is located on the western shore of Lake Apopka in Lake County, Florida. Montverde derives its name from the Spanish "Monte Verde", meaning "green mountain," a tribute to the area's rolling hills and natural beauty.

From 1887 to 1969, Montverde was served by the Tavares and Gulf Railroad, which transported agricultural goods such as grapes, citrus, and vegetables. Over the years, the town supported a variety of industries, including a cement plant, a moss processing facility, and notably, the original manufacturing site of the Snapper Mower—originally called the "Snappin' Turtle." Developed by local innovators Alex and Neal Smith, the Snapper went on to become a globally recognized brand.

Today, Montverde is home to approximately 2,200 residents and remains a vibrant small town with a strong sense of community and rural charm. It is a proud part of the Green Mountain Scenic Byway, celebrated for its historical significance and scenic landscapes that draw cyclists, outdoor enthusiasts, and visitors from near and far. A central pillar of the town is Montverde Academy, founded in 1912. This world-renowned college preparatory institution reflects the town's commitment to excellence in education.

As Montverde celebrates its centennial milestone, we honor its rich past, celebrate its present, and look forward to a bright and enduring future. Again, it is my privilege to recognize the Town of Montverde on the occasion of its centennial anniversary.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHAD KAMPBELL

HON. GEORGE WHITESIDES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. WHITESIDES. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life of my dear friend, Chad Kampbell. Chad wasn't just a devoted father, a husband, and an admired community leader—he was a cornerstone of the Santa Clarita Valley.

He and his wife Michelle, who have been close friends for several years, were deeply involved in our community.

Chad was a former president of the Democratic Alliance for Action of Santa Clarita Valley, an active member of the Santa Clarita Valley Democrats, and someone whose commitment to service ran deep.

One of his friends described him perfectly: "He was someone who truly grounded those around him. The kind of person who would help you cut through the noise, find your center, and remember why you do the work in the

first place.” That was Chad. A source of wisdom and calm, always there when you needed him.

He lived in Stevenson Ranch with his wife Michelle and their daughter Brigette. And while no words can ease the pain of this loss, I hope his family knows just how deeply loved and appreciated Chad was by all of us.

Chad was the kind of guy who would get there early to help set up an event, and then he would be breaking down the tables and chairs afterwards.

He was a talented designer and photographer. He knew how to communicate, and he used that skill for the benefit of businesses and causes close to his heart.

Chad was known for his booming voice. For many new activists getting involved, their introduction to civic engagement was seeing Chad kick-off a meeting or rally before taking the time to greet them and every person there, always with a big smile and an infectious laugh. He embodied the truth, that the greatest title of responsibility in any democracy is that of citizen.

Chad was a rock of principle. He was committed to making his community, his state and his country better. And month after month, year after year, he did the work. He and Michelle profoundly changed the Santa Clarita Valley for the better, and his impact will never be forgotten.

Chad gave so much of himself to this community because he believed in people and in the power of showing up. His absence leaves a real void, but his spirit lives on in the work he championed and the friendships he built. May we honor him not just in words, but in how we carry ourselves—with compassion, humility, and a commitment to something greater than ourselves.

Mr. Speaker, I want to close by thanking my summer interns. You cannot help but be inspired by our future, if you spend some time with the many great interns who work on Capitol Hill.

They work hard, they do important work interacting with constituents, and their passion and inspiration must be recognized.

I'm grateful to our team and I wish them the very best for their futures.

HONORING KENNETH PAUL
KIRALY

HON. SAM T. LICCARDO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. LICCARDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise, along with my colleague KEVIN MULLIN, to recognize and honor Kenneth Paul Kiraly, a distinguished innovator, for his dedication to advancing technology and making it accessible for everyone. Living all across the San Francisco Bay Area, Ken developed a love for designing and building electronics, accumulating a multitude of electronic projects throughout his life. After graduating high school in Walnut Creek, he went on to attend California State University, Pomona, before returning to the Bay Area to complete his degree in Computer Science at California State University, East Bay.

As the internet was only beginning to enter our lives, Ken helped pioneer development

tools for the Java programming language, ultimately launching the first full-featured integrated development environments (IDEs) for Java. Ken joined Palm as a senior software architect, leading the development and delivery of technologies across a variety of handheld devices. In 2005, Ken became one of Amazon's primary leaders in its new consumer device division. His leadership in the division enabled the seamless experience of the Kindle—launched in 2007—transforming the small device into a portable library for readers. Ken was particularly focused and proud of one aspect of the Kindle: its intuitive system. He cared deeply about making it accessible for people who simply loved to read, as well as individuals with disabilities. Upon its launch, the Kindle made it possible to enlarge the print of books with a single button, allowing individuals to rediscover the joy of reading without having to physically hold a book. He continued his work at Amazon, most recently developing Amazon's first consumer robot, Astro—a project blending AI with cutting-edge hardware.

Throughout his accomplished 40-year career, Ken has embodied the qualities of an innovator, a bold risk-taker, and a dedicated problem solver. As one of the early Distinguished Engineers in Amazon, he not only led engineering and product teams, but also mentored and helped grow a multitude of engineers and leaders in the company. Furthermore, he is named inventor on 44 U.S. patents, across a variety of products. All while developing groundbreaking technology, Ken helped raise two sons—Paul and James—with his wife, Virginia. As Ken concludes a distinguished career, he looks forward to spending more time with his family and enjoying the next chapter of his life.

RIP ED FEULNER

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, supporters of freedom universally appreciate the success of the late Ed Feulner. The Unleash Prosperity Hotline of Stephen Moore gives a heartfelt tribute of RIP Ed Feulner:

“Ed Feulner was a free-market conservative and fierce anti-communist back in the 1970s, long before it was cool. He invented the modern-day think tank, taking it from the days of stodgy 200-page tomes that lay gathering dust on bookshelves and read by few, to providing just-in-time, influential, hard-hitting studies delivered into the hands of the policymakers that mattered.

“Among his many contributions to advancing freedom and free enterprise was to train hundreds of today's leading voices in the conservative movement—including some of the thinkers and activists at Unleash Prosperity. Heritage taught young talent how to be relevant and impactful—something our billion-dollar universities don't do.

“He believed that ‘people are policy’ and that's a lesson that this so-far successful Trump administration has taken to heart. His legacy lives on.”

RECOGNIZING THE NAVY CLUB OF
GEORGETOWN, SC

HON. RUSSELL FRY

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. FRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Navy Club of Georgetown, South Carolina, as it celebrates an extraordinary milestone, its 100th anniversary. Since 1925, this group has united veterans of the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. From the shores of South Carolina to all around the world, they've served our Nation with honor.

For generations, the Navy Club has remained deeply embedded in the life of the Georgetown community—supporting Navy Junior Reserve Officers, honoring naval heritage, and fostering a spirit of unity among veterans and civilians alike.

What began in 1925, as a gathering of like-minded servicemembers, has grown into a lasting institution, one that continues to support generations of veterans through friendship, mentorship, and tradition. The Club's annual shrimp dinners have become a beloved local occasion, bringing people together to share stories, remember the past, and strengthen community ties.

The Navy Club's mission is clear: to honor the proud legacy of naval service in South Carolina. Through veteran outreach, youth engagement, and the preservation of time-honored customs, it safeguards our maritime traditions for the future.

As we mark this centennial, we are reminded of the enduring values that define our armed forces: honor, courage, and commitment. The Navy Club's story is one of lasting impact, civic pride, and a devotion to service that transcends generations.

Over the decades, it has built a strong foundation of fellowship and support, uplifting those who served, commemorating those we've lost, and building bridges within Georgetown. Its events have become more than social gatherings—they are touchpoints of history, community, and service.

Their passion for service, fellowship, and patriotism continues to inspire the next generation. On behalf of the people of South Carolina's Seventh District, I thank them and congratulate them on 100 years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, due to my flight being diverted because of severe weather, I was unable to vote on July 14, 2025.

Had I been present, I would have voted

YEA on Roll Call 191;

YEA on Roll Call 192; and

YEA on Roll Call 193.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MRS.
CHRISTA SULLIVAN

HON. KEVIN MULLIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, it is with heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise to pay tribute to a great woman and dear friend and neighbor, Mrs. Christa Sullivan of South San Francisco, California. Christa passed away peacefully on Wednesday, July 2, 2025 and her funeral mass will be held for family and friends on Thursday, July 24, 2025 at 1:00 pm at Saint Agnes Church in San Francisco, California.

A native daughter of Germany, Christa immigrated to the United States as a girl. She worked at St. Mary's Hospital, where she met and married the love of her life, the late Detective Patrick Sullivan. Christa was a beloved mother and is survived by her children Stephanie, Kevin (along with his wife Orla), and Christian (along with his wife Karen), and her grandchildren Mick, Leah, Casey, Caeli, and Patrick. She was a lover of animals, and a longtime volunteer at St. Veronica's Parish, Mercy High School and Serra High School. She was a steadfast supporter of the men and women of the South San Francisco Police Department and the founder and lifelong advocate for their association.

Christa will be remembered for her warmth, quiet strength, and unwavering faith. She lived a life rooted in service to her community and family, for which we will be forever grateful. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and the residents of California's Fifteenth Congressional District in rising to recognize a life well lived, and to extend our deepest sympathies to Christa's family, friends, and loved ones during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

RECOGNIZING UNITED STATES MARINE SERGEANT MAJOR TIMOTHY BABCOCK AS AUGUST 2025 VETERAN OF THE MONTH

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with profound respect and gratitude to recognize the extraordinary service and unwavering dedication of Sergeant Major Timothy Babcock, a proud veteran of the United States Marine Corps and our distinguished Veteran of the Month for August 2025 from Michigan's 9th Congressional District. His exceptional military career and steadfast commitment to duty, excellence, and patriotism embody the very best of American service.

Timothy Babcock answered the call to serve his country after his high school graduation, when he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He reported to Marine Combat Training at the School of Infantry in Camp Pendleton, California in 1996. After completing training at Camp Pendleton, Timothy attended Personnel Administration School at Camp Johnson, North Carolina where he earned the Military

Occupational Specialty (MOS) of 0151 Administrative Clerk.

Following his training, Timothy was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines, where he served as an Administrative Clerk. During his time with the unit, he completed two Western Pacific deployments. His dedication and preparedness during this period were a reflection of his deep commitment to duty and honor.

In 2003, Timothy reported to the Commanding General of the 4th Marine Expeditionary Brigade (Anti-Terrorism), where he served in multiple roles including Administrative Clerk, Assistant Administrative Chief, and Information Management Representative. These assignments highlight not only his strong work ethic but also his unwavering dedication to supporting the mission and security of our Nation.

Later in 2003, he attended the U.S. Army Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he completed the rigorous training required to earn his Airborne qualification. In 2005, he reported to the Marine Aviation Detachment at Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, California. There, he served as the Administrative Chief, overseeing administrative operations for both China Lake and Point Mugu.

Timothy continued his distinguished career as the Administrative Chief for Marine Special Operations within U.S. Marine Forces, Special Operations Command (MARSOC), deploying to Afghanistan from 2010 to 2011. He later served as the Administrative Chief for both the Marine Special Operations Regiment and Marine Aircraft Group 29.

In 2013, Timothy reported to 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines, where he deployed to Okinawa, Japan, and participated in Exercise Forest Light and the Korean Marine Exchange Program—strengthening joint capabilities and international cooperation.

Following this assignment, Timothy transitioned to Tampa, Florida, where he served as the First Sergeant for Headquarters Company, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Central Command. In this leadership role, he continued to exemplify professionalism, mentorship, and unwavering dedication to the mission and his Marines.

In recent years, Timothy served as First Sergeant of Headquarters and Service Company, 2nd Tank Battalion, and later as Sergeant Major of Marine Air Support Squadron 1. Since 2022, he has served as Inspector-Instructor Sergeant Major for 1st Battalion, 24th Marines, continuing his tradition of exemplary leadership and dedication.

His distinguished service earned him numerous personal decorations, including the Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon, among other service and campaign awards. He is also authorized to wear the Navy and Marine Corps Parachutist Insignia.

After 30 years of faithful and honorable service, Timothy retired from the United States Marine Corps. His experience, professionalism, and devotion to country have left a lasting impact on the lives of countless Americans. His legacy is one of sacrifice, integrity, and duty, and we offer our deepest gratitude for his outstanding service to the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, let us express our sincerest appreciation to Timothy Babcock and for his

outstanding military service and congratulate him on his retirement. His excellent acts of valor have protected our country and our freedoms in this great Nation. His story is a testament to the American spirit of service, sacrifice, and resolve, and it is an honor to recognize him as our Veteran of the Month.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF WINDERMERE, FLORIDA

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Centennial of the Town of Windermere, Florida.

Originally established as a residential development in 1889 and formally chartered in 1925, Windermere's history is both rich and unique. Its first post office opened in 1888, briefly closed in 1901, and reopened in 1911, signaling the resilience of a growing town. The Florida Midland Railroad once ran just west of Main Street, where a bustling station once stood. Today, a grassy expanse marks that historic path, serving as a quiet tribute to Windermere's early days.

Nestled on a scenic isthmus between Lake Butler, Lake Down, and Lake Bessie. Windermere is a tranquil gem "Among the Lakes" in the heart of Central Florida. With just over 3,000 residents within its two-square-mile boundary, it has maintained a distinct small-town charm defined by tree-lined street, historic architecture, and a vibrant, close-knit community. Just minutes from world-class attractions like Walt Disney World and downtown Orlando. Windermere remains a quiet sanctuary rooted in history and guided by a shared commitment to quality of life.

The town owes much to the visionaries who helped incorporate it 100 years ago, including Cal Palmer, J. Howard Johnson, Howard Lyon, and Stanley Scott. Their legacy lives on in Windermere's thoughtful planning and strong community values.

Over the past century, Windermere has grown while steadfastly preserving its natural beauty and heritage. Today, it offers an exceptional blend of peaceful living and refined elegance. Beloved local traditions, such as the weekly Friday Farmers Market and popular Food Truck Nights, bring neighbors together and highlight the town's enduring community spirit.

As part of its centennial celebration, the town has unveiled a special Centennial Lobby in the Town Administration Building, where residents and visitors alike can reflect on the milestones that have shaped Windermere over the past 100 years.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to congratulate the Town of Windermere on this historic occasion and to recognize its significant contributions to the fabric of Central Florida. Here's to the next 100 years of community, character, and continued excellence.

HONORING SASHA DALTONN ON
HER 75TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON
OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the extraordinary life and profound contributions of Sasha Daltonn, a distinguished founder, producer, and tireless advocate for arts and history. As she marks her birthday on June 25, 1950, we take this moment to honor her remarkable journey and enduring legacy.

Born in Chicago, Sasha Daltonn was raised in a household that instilled the values of hard work and community. Her mother, Christine, contributed through her work in sales, while her father, Edgar, served as a proud Pullman porter. These foundations undoubtedly shaped Sasha's commitment to excellence and service.

Sasha Daltonn's career is marked by her significant roles as both a founder and a producer, leaving an indelible mark on various cultural landscapes. Her dedication to the arts is evident through her long-standing affiliations, including a decade with Gospel Music According to Chicago (GMACC), two years with Jazz n' You, nine years with the Harold Washington Legacy Committee, and eight years with the South Side Jazz Coalition. She is also a proud member of Rainbow PUSH, demonstrating her commitment to broader social justice initiatives. Currently, Sasha brings her passion and expertise to the airwaves as the host of Sasha Daltonn Gospel on Omni Radio, and leads her own enterprise as President of Sasha Daltonn Entertainment.

Her profound contributions have garnered well-deserved recognition from numerous esteemed bodies, including honors from the Advinity Awards, the AARC Awards, the Harlem Theater Association, and the Fred Hammond Awards, among others. These accolades underscore her significant impact and the high esteem in which she is held by her peers.

Sasha Daltonn is guided by her faith and an unrelenting commitment to instill pride in our youth through the transformative power of the arts. She is a fervent champion for preserving Black history and honoring the historians and history-makers who have shaped our past and continue to inspire our future. Her life's work is a testament to celebrating and honoring those who paved the way.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the exceptional life and ongoing accomplishments of Sasha Daltonn, a true cultural pioneer, an inspiring producer, and a dedicated historian whose immense contributions continue to enrich our Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE 22ND ANNUAL
DISABILITY PRIDE PARADE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY
OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 22nd Annual Disability Pride Parade taking place in Chicago's Loop

on Saturday, July 26. The parade takes place 35 years to the day that the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) was signed into law, and the theme of the parade is 35 years of ADA: Still Rising, Still Thriving.

The mission of the Disability Pride Parade is to change the way people think about and define "disability," to break down and end the internalized shame among people with disabilities, and to promote the belief in society that disability is a natural and beautiful part of human diversity in which people living with disabilities can take pride.

In 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act was signed into law. This bipartisan effort made a commitment that our history of segregating and isolating persons with disabilities would end. In the law's own words, the purpose of the ADA is to "provide a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities."

By setting enforceable standards, providing assistance for compliance, and asserting the federal government's central role in ending discrimination, this landmark civil rights law has provided hope and opportunity for all Americans—those today living with a disability and those of us who could become disabled tomorrow. Because of the ADA, individuals with disabilities have the legal right to fully participate in our society—the right to transportation, health services, shopping, entertainment, education, employment, public accommodations, and voting.

Those who fought so hard to win its passage—including my friend and mentor Marca Bristo, the founder and head of Access Living—deserve to celebrate its enactment and deserve our thanks. But as we celebrate today, we have to get to work tomorrow. We need to build on the ADA's promise—whether it is passing my bill, the Eleanor Smith Inclusive Home Design Act, to make sure that all new residential housing built with federal dollars is accessible or increasing the employment of adults with disabilities.

This year, we have seen a number of legislative attempts to take away rights from disabled individuals. The Big Ugly Bill, which Republicans passed through Congress, is going to strip health care away from nearly 17 million individuals, including many with disabilities. I stood on the frontlines with disability advocates who have truly been the tip of the spear in the fight to protect all Americans' health care. While we did not win this battle, the fight is not over. The power of the people is always greater than that of the people in power.

As long as discrimination still exists and as long as there are those who seek to undermine existing law, the purpose of the ADA will not have been completely met. It is our job to make sure that happens.

REMEMBERING JOSEPH H. "JOE"
CAMPBELL

HON. VINCE FONG
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. FONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Joseph H. "Joe" Campbell, a respected farmer and pioneer in

California's table grape industry, who passed away on July 10, 2025, at the age of 81.

Joe Campbell was part of a generation that helped shape the modern agricultural landscape of the Central Valley. After graduating from Delano High School in 1960 and serving in the U.S. Army, Joe began farming in 1969. He first grew cotton and wheat, then later moved into almonds and, ultimately, table grapes. In 1986, he leased his first vineyard, setting the course for what would become a transformative career in California agriculture.

Through his leadership roles at Delano Farms and Four Star Fruit, Joe helped grow the combined operation into one of the largest table grape producers in the state. His business decisions often required risk, but they were grounded in instinct, common sense, and a deep familiarity with the communities in which he operated. He played a defining role in shaping California's table grape industry—a legacy that endures.

While Joe's work ethic and vision helped drive the success of a major agricultural enterprise, he remained grounded in his roots and true to the values that shaped him. He was known for his humility, consistency, and dedication to his family above all else. He shared a long and loving marriage with his wife, Jana, and raised three sons who continue his legacy in agriculture.

Joe Campbell's story is a reminder of the strength and promise of California's farming families. His contributions helped define an industry, and his example will continue to influence the generations that follow.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Joseph H. Campbell. He was a farmer, a businessman, and a man whose life's work and pursuit of the American dream left a lasting mark on the Central Valley and California agriculture.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF CLARA GIPSON-MCKNIGHT

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a remarkable woman, Clara Gipson-McKnight, on the occasion of her 95th birthday on February 3, 2025. Mrs. McKnight's courage, resilience, and lifelong commitment to education and justice have left a lasting impact on her community and beyond. Her story is not only one of personal triumph, but also one of heroism in the face of injustice.

Mrs. Gipson-McKnight was born on February 3, 1930, in Summerton, South Carolina, to Annette and Johnnie Gipson. After losing her mother at a young age, she was raised by her father and stepmother alongside her siblings. A member of Spring Hill A.M.E. Church, Mrs. Gipson-McKnight was deeply shaped by her faith and her community. As a child, she attended a small three-room school attached to the church before advancing to Scott's Branch High School. With no transportation available, she lived with Reverend Joseph A. DeLaine—a civil rights leader—and bartered her farming skills in exchange for room and board.

Mrs. Gipson-McKnight and her family were active participants in the fight for civil rights

and educational equity. Her parents were signatories on one of the petitions demanding equal facilities for Black students—part of the legal groundwork that lead to the *Briggs v. Elliott* case and, later, *Brown v. Board of Education*. As a result of their activism, the Gipson and DeLaine families endured brutal retaliation, including harassment by the Ku Klux Klan. Mrs. Gipson-McKnight was living with the DeLaine family when their home was set on fire by the KKK—an attack she miraculously survived. Undeterred, she continued her studies, walking miles along rural roads to reach a school bus stop after the community pooled its resources to restore a broken-down vehicle for student use.

Following her graduation, Mrs. Gipson-McKnight attended Allen University in Columbia, where she became the first in her immediate family to earn a college degree. She returned to Summerton to teach and serve as a school principal, but like many Black educators after *Brown v. Board*, she was unjustly dismissed due to white resistance to integration and the purging of civil rights activists. Mrs. Gipson-McKnight then moved to New York City, where she worked for nearly three decades in the city's Social Services agency.

Mrs. Gipson-McKnight married Harold McKnight in 1963, and they shared 53 loving years of marriage before his passing in 2019. In retirement, she has remained active as a family historian, storyteller, and traveler.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in celebrating the 95th birthday of Mrs. Clara Gipson-McKnight. She is a living witness to some of the most consequential moments of the 20th century—and through it all, she has remained a steadfast believer in education, justice, and the power of community. May her legacy continue to inspire future generations for years to come.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF STEPHANIE PAPAGIANNIS

HON. MARLIN A. STUTZMAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary American who has resided for over 70 years in Indiana's 3rd District, Mrs. Stephanie Papagiannis, as she celebrates her 100th birthday on July 25, 2025. A century marked by perseverance, family, faith, and an enduring love for this country.

Born in 1925 in the village of Vishini now known as Vissinia. Stephanie grew up amid the political and cultural upheaval of Greek-occupied Macedonia. She witnessed firsthand the efforts to erase the language and customs of the native Macedonian people, yet she never lost her sense of identity or resilience.

In 1952, with incredible courage and hope, Stephanie left behind a war-torn Europe and emigrated to the United States with her young son, James, to reunite with her husband Peter in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Together, they built a new life grounded in hard work, community, and opportunity. The couple raised three children, and today, their family has grown including five grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

Stephanie and Peter contributed meaningfully to the local community, opening two high-

ly regarded establishments; the Pontiac Rib Bar and Pete's Gateview Inn. Their restaurants were not just businesses they were gathering places that embodied their warmth and entrepreneurial spirit.

A proud member of Fort Wayne's Macedonian American community, Stephanie maintained strong ties to her heritage and faith through St. Nicholas Macedonian Orthodox Cathedral, founded by her relatives. Her life has served as a bridge between generations and is inspiring to all.

Mr. Speaker, as Mrs. Papagiannis celebrates her centennial surrounded by loved ones, we pay tribute to a remarkable woman whose story represents the very best of the American immigrant experience who lived the American dream. May her legacy continue to inspire, and may her next chapter be filled with joy and peace.

HONORING ED FEULNER

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, with the passing of Ed Feulner, he has been appropriately eulogized for his steadfast promotion of modern conservatism. As a Reaganaut serving in the Department of Energy, 1981 to 1982, with Secretary Jim Edwards, I know firsthand "The Mandate" was instrumental in promoting free markets. The following is from the *National Review* on July 20th editorialized:

"In 1973 Ed Feulner and his friend Paul Weyrich co-founded the Heritage Foundation, the think tank that nurtured and spread many of the policies that informed the Reagan Administration. Its "Mandate for Leadership" policy compendium in 1980 became a guide for the Reaganauts out to change Washington.

"Under Feulner, the think tank also became known for short, fast policy summaries delivered to Members of Congress and staff in anticipation of votes. Turnover on Capitol Hill is rapid, and Heritage's missives were influential guides to policies developed on the right over many years.

"Like many Reagan-era conservatives, Feulner believed in a coalition built on the three-legged stool of free markets and a smaller government, strong national defense, and traditional views on social policy. He welcomed all factions of what was once called the "conservative movement," from libertarians to Russell Kirk traditionalists to neocons.

"For many years, the *Journal* worked with Heritage on the annual Index of Economic Freedom. The volume ranked countries around the world on various measures of economic liberty. Feulner was notable for believing in a strong U.S. presence in the world, and he was especially close to leaders in Taiwan and South Korea. As recently as the mid-2000s we can recall a delegation of Heritage scholars making the case to us that U.S. defense spending should be 5% of gross domestic product. Today it's closer to 3%, and heading lower under President Trump.

"Born outside Chicago in a German-American Catholic family, Feulner attended Regis College in Denver where he discovered conservative ideas. Barry Goldwater was an early political influence. "You have to choose between liberty and equality," Feulner told John Miller of *National Review*.

"I picked liberty." Each year he published an essay by thinkers who defined conservative principles.

"Feulner was Heritage president for 37 years and remained a trustee in retirement. The think tank has taken a sharp turn toward Trumpian populism in recent years. It opposes free trade and leans toward an isolationist foreign policy. It focuses less on ideas and more on supporting whatever President Trump does. Feulner wasn't always happy with Heritage's new direction, but he kept his misgivings private out of loyalty to the institution.

"As the years advance, it's clear that the late 1970s through the 1980s and 1990s was a unique period of conservative intellectual ambition. Ed Feulner's motto was "onward, always," reflecting his optimism about the durability of America's founding ideals. The young Republicans in Washington may not know it, but they are spending down the intellectual capital stockpiled by Ed Feulner and his generation."

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the City of Fruitland Park, Florida. Known fondly as "The Friendly City", Fruitland Park is a historic and thriving community in Lake County, Florida.

On December 14, 1925, residents of the area gathered at the Casino building in Fruitland Park for the purpose of organizing a municipal government. With a shared vision for the future, the citizens voted to incorporate their town and officially adopted the name Fruitland Park. Less than two years later, in May of 1927, the city was formally chartered.

In 1925, Fruitland Park was home to just 417 residents, spread across a modest 3-square-mile area. As of May 2025, the city has grown to serve a population of roughly 9,015 across more than 7 square miles.

Today, Fruitland Park provides a full range of municipal services, including public safety through police and fire departments, essential infrastructure support via a robust public works department, access to clean water and sanitation utilities, and vibrant recreational and library services. These offerings reflect the city's deep commitment to enhancing quality of life for its residents.

Fruitland Park's natural beauty, small-town charm, and strong civic infrastructure make it a desirable location for retirees and families alike. Its development in recent years has been extraordinary, and its future continues to look bright with anticipated progress over the coming decade.

It is my privilege to honor and celebrate the City of Fruitland Park on the occasion of its centennial anniversary. May the next 100 years be as vibrant and prosperous as the first.

HONORING ATHENS WEED ON HIS
73RD BIRTHDAY

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the extraordinary life and profound contributions of Athens Weed, a distinguished veteran, dedicated professional, and tireless community activist. As he marks his birthday on July 24, 1952, we take this moment to honor his remarkable journey and enduring legacy.

Born in Chicago, Athens Weed emerged from working class family roots, shaped by the strong values instilled by his parents, including his stepfather. Taylor Pouncey, who notably served as an Illinois House Representative.

These early influences laid the foundation for a life dedicated to service and achievement.

Athens pursued higher education, attending both the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) and Purdue University Calumet, before earning an Associate of Science degree from Olive Harvey College. His commitment to excellence and duty led him to serve our Nation with honor in the United States Navy, a pivotal experience in his life. A particularly proud moment in his distinguished military career was receiving his Dolphins Medal, qualifying him for Submarine Certification—a testament to his exceptional skill and dedication.

Following his commendable military service, Athens continued to contribute significantly to his community and Nation. He became a valued member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 134, showcasing his expertise and commitment to his craft. For many years, he also served the public through his employment with the Chicago

Transit Authority, ensuring essential services for countless citizens. Throughout his professional endeavors, Athens Weed consistently demonstrates his core values; always working to his strengths, ensuring the job gets done with precision, treating everyone with respect, and extending a helping hand to those who need it most.

Beyond his professional achievements, Athens Weed is a deeply engaged civic leader. He is a dedicated activist with Operation Breadbasket and Operation Rainbow PUSH, embodying the spirit of advocacy and community upliftment. His long-standing years of choir service further highlight his commitment to communal harmony and spiritual well-being.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the exceptional life and ongoing accomplishments of Athens Weed, a true American patriot, a compassionate leader, and an inspiring individual whose dedication continues to enrich our Nation.