

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING MORGAN JAY BUCHANAN

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Morgan Jay Buchanan, who recently retired after nearly ten years as President of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local Union 68.

President Buchanan dedicated his life to service. He served honorably for 17 years in the U.S. Army before enrolling in the Denver Joint Electrical Apprenticeship program, and went on to become Vice President of IBEW 68 and eventually President.

As a part of Local Union 68, he worked tirelessly to ensure his fellow electricians had safe, rewarding careers. President Buchanan embodies the qualities essential to being an effective leader. His union brothers and sisters benefited from his hard work and commitment to creating a better future for all, and his absence will be felt by the community he served so well.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to thank President Buchanan for his hard work and dedication to serving his country and his community.

RECOGNIZING HENRY PADRÓN-MORALES

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic American Heritage Month to pay tribute to a distinguished community leader from Rochester, New York, Padrón-Morales.

As co-founder of Hipocampo Children's Bookstore, Henry Padrón-Morales has created a space that celebrates culture, diversity, and the power of literacy. Rooted in his Puerto Rican heritage, his vision and leadership have fostered a love of reading while amplifying voices that too often go unheard. Through this work, Henry has become a trusted advocate for inclusivity and cultural pride in our community.

Henry's commitment to justice and community leadership began at an early age and has remained a guiding force throughout his life. He helped establish organizations such as the Puerto Rican Youth Development and Resource Center and the Spanish Action Coalition, and he was involved in the first Puerto Rican Festival in Rochester, New York. At the heart of his activism has always been a dedication to ensuring that marginalized voices are heard and that his community has a meaningful seat at the table.

Alongside his advocacy, Henry devoted 34 years to the Rochester City School District, most of them as a beloved kindergarten teacher. In his dual-language classrooms, he cultivated environments where children of all backgrounds could learn together, honor one another's cultures, and see themselves reflected in their education. Through his teaching, Henry inspired countless young people to embrace their identities and take pride in their heritage.

It is with great pride and admiration that I recognize Henry Padrón-Morales this Hispanic American Heritage Month. His steadfast dedication to youth empowerment and cultural celebration uplifts Rochester and serves as an enduring inspiration for future generations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavailable, and I missed the following Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 265; and YEA on Roll Call No. 266.

RECOGNIZING EDMUND GOOD ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. LISA C. MCCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pride and admiration to recognize the extraordinary life and milestone of Mr. Edmund Good, a lifelong public servant and respected member of the Michigan community, as he celebrates his 100th birthday.

For three decades, Mr. Good faithfully served as the Township Clerk for Brookfield Township, where he carried out his duties with integrity, diligence, and a steadfast commitment to his neighbors. His leadership and service helped ensure that local government remained accountable, transparent, and responsive to the needs of the people.

Mr. Good's dedication to his community was matched by his unwavering commitment to his country's political life. He was honored to serve as a delegate for Presidents Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan, playing a meaningful role in advancing their principles and vision during pivotal moments in our Nation's history. His decades of support demonstrate not only his loyalty to the values he holds dear but also his deep belief in civic duty and citizen involvement in democracy.

Turning 100 years old is itself a remarkable achievement, a milestone reached by few and deserving of the highest recognition. Yet, what

makes this occasion truly special is not only the years Mr. Good has lived, but also the example he has set for all of us through his service, dedication, and lifelong commitment to faith, family, and community.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to recognize Edmund Good on the occasion of his 100th birthday. His life reflects the very best of American perseverance, patriotism, and service. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this extraordinary man and wishing him continued health and happiness in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED

HON. ADAM GRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. GRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the University of California, Merced, as it celebrates 20 years of firsts.

The University of California Board of Regents, working to meet long-term enrollment demand in the San Joaquin Valley and increase access to the UC system, selected the Merced site in 1995 for the system's 10th campus.

The first undergraduate class arrived in the fall of 2005, officially marking the campus's opening. In 2009, UC Merced celebrated its first full graduating class with First Lady Michelle Obama delivering the commencement address. The University received its initial regional accreditation from WSCUC in 2011, and in 2015, UC Merced is the youngest university to earn national recognition for community engagement with a Carnegie Research Classification.

UC Merced was the first public research university in the Nation to reach verified operational carbon neutrality in 2018, and in 2020, completed its "UC Merced 2020 Project" which was the largest social-infrastructure public-private partnership in U.S. higher education at the time. This project doubled the campus footprint, adding new classrooms, research labs, housing, student wellness facilities, recreation and more. Eleven UC Merced 2020 project buildings earned LEED platinum certifications.

The first-ever comprehensive campaign "Boldly Forward" in 2022 raised funds to support UC Merced's first medical education building to support the new Bachelor of Science to Medical Doctorate pathway, developed in partnership with UC San Francisco and UCSF-Fresno.

Two years later, the UC Board of Regents held their first-ever full meeting at UC Merced, and UC Merced was accepted into NCAA Division II to elevate and enhance intercollegiate athletics and the student experience.

Today, UC Merced is the only university in California's Central Valley to attain the Carnegie Classification R1: Very High Research

● 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.

Activity, cementing its role as a driver of discovery, talent and economic mobility. As the first American research university founding in the 21st century, UC Merced continues to be a top-100 research university and the fastest-growing public university in the Nation, supporting high achieving and dedicated students from the underserved Central Valley and throughout California.

Please join me in honoring UC Merced as it continues its journey toward many more firsts.

RECOGNIZING FIRE CHIEF DAVID RAMOS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fire Chief David Ramos of Broomfield, Colorado, on his retirement after 41 years of service with the North Metro Fire Rescue District.

Chief Ramos joined the North Metro Fire Rescue District in 1984, and his many years of exemplary service earned him the position of Fire Chief. While in this position of leadership, he did a commendable job modernizing and expanding North Metro Fire, and he improved collaboration for emergency services in surrounding communities.

Chief Ramos honorably served this community for decades through numerous challenges, and he has been widely regarded as a mentor and a friend to many. Throughout his career, he was a visionary leader who always put people first, and his lifesaving leadership across Colorado will not be forgotten.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Fire Chief David Ramos for his more than four decades of service with the North Metro Fire Rescue District and sincerely thank him for his contributions to the Colorado community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LUIS EDUARDO RUMBAUT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Luis Eduardo Rumbaut. Luis was a longtime resident of the District of Columbia and a pillar of D.C.'s Latino community. He died on June 28, 2025.

Born in Cuba, Luis moved to D.C. in 1972 to study at Antioch Law School. As a law student, Luis was a founding member of Ayuda, where he provided legal assistance to low-income immigrants. After leaving Ayuda, Luis began a career in the D.C. government, working for the Office of Corporation Counsel. After two decades of service in the D.C. government, Luis worked as the Director of the Latin American Folk Institute and published a bilingual online newsletter, "La Alborada," five times a week.

Luis was very active in the D.C. music scene. A talented musician who played the tres and the cuatro, Luis and his bands regu-

larly performed in the Adams Morgan and Columbia Heights neighborhoods, as well as in regional events.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Luis Eduardo Rumbaut.

WELCOMING ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW OF CONSTANTINOPLE TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

HON. MICHAEL A. RULLI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. RULLI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople to Washington, D.C. A true beacon of peace, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew leads 250 million Orthodox Christians.

Elected in October 1991, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew has continuously shown his desire for peace, even in the face of attacks and persecution. He has championed international peace conferences, bringing together Christians, Muslims, and Jews for the purpose of alliance and understanding.

His efforts across multiple realms have been recognized by the United States Congress, the United Nations, and the European Union. His influence extends beyond the Orthodox Christian community and has been instrumental in promoting global unity and harmony.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew continues to stand as a symbol of hope. I am very pleased to welcome the Ecumenical Patriarch to Washington, D.C. as he meets with President Trump.

Invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in welcoming Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to Washington, D.C.

RECOGNIZING ORLANDO ORTIZ

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic American Heritage Month to recognize an outstanding business and community leader from Rochester, New York, Orlando Ortiz.

Serving as President, Orlando Ortiz has played a pivotal role in shaping and leading the Puerto Rican Festival for over 15 years. He has worked tirelessly to honor Puerto Rican heritage and create a welcoming space where thousands of residents and visitors gather each year. Under his leadership, the festival has become more than an event, it is a unifying force that strengthens community bonds and promotes cultural pride.

A native of Cayey, Puerto Rico, Orlando moved to Rochester in 1991 and has carried his heritage with him throughout his life and work. Alongside his leadership of the festival, he has built a distinguished career as Real Estate Investor and Property Manager for RocOn Property Management. In 2019, his impact was recognized when the Rochester His-

panic Business Association named him Hispanic Business Person of the Year.

Orlando's commitment to service extends well beyond his professional accomplishments. In 2020, he was honored with the Minett Professorship at the Rochester Institute of Technology, recognizing his leadership and dedication to education and community engagement. The year before, he and his wife, Denishea, were named the NextGen Rochester Young Philanthropists of the Year, a testament to their shared commitment to giving back. Across these roles and recognitions, Orlando has exemplified a steadfast devotion to advancing our community and preserving cultural heritage.

It is with great pride and admiration that I recognize Orlando Ortiz during Hispanic American Heritage Month. His professional achievements and civic service have left a lasting mark on both the Hispanic community and the Greater Rochester region.

WELCOMING ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW

HON. NELLIE POU

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Ms. POU. Mr. Speaker, I rise to welcome His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to the United States. On behalf of the many Eastern Orthodox Christians who call New Jersey home, including my constituents at St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Clifton, I offer my heartfelt congratulations and express deep admiration to His All-Holiness for his ongoing efforts to foster peace, understanding, and stewardship of our shared planet.

Leading the church since 1991, His All-Holiness serves as a spiritual guide for more than 300 million faithful Orthodox Christians around the world. His commitment to engaging with communities and governments around the globe, regardless of faith, has made him one of the most recognizable and respected religious figures of our time.

While in the United States, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew will be awarded the prestigious Templeton Prize for his outstanding contributions to the advancement of science and spirituality. He will join the company of other spiritual leaders like Mother Teresa and the Dalai Lama. I am honored to add my voice to the chorus of others who welcome the Ecumenical Patriarch to the United States and honor him for his lifetime of incredible service and work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavailable, and I missed the following Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 272; YEA on Roll Call No. 273; YEA on Roll Call No. 274; YEA on Roll Call No. 275; and NO on Roll Call No. 276.

RECOGNIZING CAÑON CITY HIGH SCHOOL

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cañon City High School in Cañon City, Colorado, for their well-deserved recognition by the Carnegie Foundation as an innovative school and member of the Future of High School Network.

Cañon City High School has established a model of education that prioritizes meaningful learning over seat time in the classroom. During the 2024–2025 school year, 698 students participated in concurrent enrollment, earning over 10,218 college credit hours, and 243 students earned industry-recognized credentials in construction management, welding, engineering, automotive technology, healthcare, food service, and business software. As an additional requirement of the graduation process, students must complete an internship with local community partners to gain practical experience in a career pathway of their choice. It is these types of programs that set the school apart and help prepare students to thrive, no matter what they choose to do after graduation.

As one of only twenty-four schools across the Nation to receive this recognition, Cañon City High School has become a national model of public education through its commitment to offer concurrent enrollment, industry-recognized credentials, and work-based learning.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate this school, staff, administration, and board members for this accomplishment and thank them for their commitment to our kids and our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, upon casting my vote, I departed the House floor without realizing the voting system did not register my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 282.

HONORING THE VISIT OF THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW OF CONSTANTINOPLE

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of the Eastern Orthodox Church to Washington, D.C.

Since 1991, Patriarch Bartholomew has served as the spiritual leader for the approximately 300 million Orthodox Christians world-

wide. In the face of tremendous obstacles, Patriarch Bartholomew has remained a steadfast leader, promoting religious freedom and tolerance in Constantinople and around the world.

Dedicated to the pursuit of interreligious understanding and cooperation, His All-Holiness is often referred to as the "Patriarch of Peace." Patriarch Bartholomew's visit to the United States coincides with his reception of the Templeton Prize, the foremost award in religion and science, in honor of his curiosity and lifelong commitment to exploration.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's 1st Congressional District, including the congregants of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Manchester and St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Portsmouth, I warmly welcome Patriarch Bartholomew and congratulate him on his award. We wish him all the best and look forward to his next visit.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MICHAEL SCOTT SCHUERLEIN

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Michael Scott Schuerlein, who passed away on June 12, 2025, at the age of 81.

Michael was born in Berea, Ohio, and was the only child of Frederick and Adah Schuerlein. He graduated from Baldwin Wallace College, where he was a proud member of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. After moving west in 1967, Michael and his first wife built a home on Lake Sammamish and raised their children in Washington state.

Over the course of more than 50 years as a homebuilder, Michael's creativity and commitment to craftsmanship shaped communities across the region. His work was showcased in the "Street of Dreams" homes of the 1990's, and his passion was evident in his Whidbey Island home, which he filled with antiques and personal treasures.

Michael's life was also defined by service to others. He relentlessly dedicated his time and talents to advancing affordable housing on Whidbey Island, including his work with the Tiny Houses in the Name of Christ (THINC) project and as a member of the Island Roots Housing board. His belief that affordable housing is critical to the well-being of the Langley community continues to guide local efforts today.

Beyond his professional work, Michael was an avid sailor and a generous friend. He was known for his weekly reflections and encouragement to those around him, often sharing the motto he lived by: "Thoughts become things . . . Choose the good ones."

Michael is survived by his daughters, stepdaughters, granddaughter, companion and a wide circle of friends and colleagues. He will be deeply missed by his family, his fraternity brothers, his sailing community, his fellow Langley Coffee Curmudgeons and all who benefited from his generosity and wisdom.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Michael Scott Schuerlein, whose creativity, generosity and service strengthened communities across Northwest Washington and beyond.

RECOGNIZING UNITED STATES ARMY CAPTAIN MIKE RETZLAFF

HON. LISA C. MCCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished service of Captain Mike Retzlaff, a proud veteran of the United States Army whose dedication, leadership, and commitment to duty reflect the highest traditions of military service.

Born and raised in Holly, Michigan, Captain Retzlaff pursued higher education at Cedarville University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise Science and completed the Army ROTC program. In 2017, he was commissioned as an Armor Officer in the United States Army, marking the beginning of a career of honorable service to our Nation.

Captain Retzlaff's first assignment was as a Tank Platoon Leader with 3rd Platoon, Battle Company, 1st Battalion, 66th Armored Regiment at Fort Carson, Colorado. In 2019, he deployed to Kuwait in support of Operation Spartan Shield, where his leadership made a significant contribution to the mission's success. Upon returning, he served as the Headquarters Company Executive Officer, managing company operations, resources, and readiness. His performance and dedication during this period earned him induction into the prestigious Order of St. George.

Following his time at Fort Carson, Captain Retzlaff attended the Maneuver Captain's Career Course at Fort Benning, Georgia, graduating in 2022. He was then assigned to the 2nd Squadron, 16th Cavalry Regiment, where he served as an Armor Basic Officer Leader Course (ABOLC) Tactics Instructor, training the next generation of Army leaders.

In August 2022, Captain Retzlaff assumed command of Lightning Troop, 2nd Squadron, 16th Cavalry Regiment. As Troop Commander, he led more than 100 soldiers and was responsible for executing live-fire gunnery training for all new Armor Officers in the United States Army—an essential mission he carried out with distinction.

Upon completion of command, Captain Retzlaff returned home to Michigan, where he served at the Detroit Military Entrance Processing Station. During his tenure, he enlisted more than 1,000 applicants into their respective branches of service, shaping the future of America's Armed Forces.

Over the course of his military career, Captain Retzlaff completed numerous schools, including the Armor Basic Officer Leader Course, the Army Reconnaissance Course, Air Assault School, the Advanced Situational Awareness Course, the Maneuver Leaders Maintenance Course, and the Maneuver Captain's Career Course. His service has been recognized with the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, and several other awards and decorations. He is also a proud Silver Spur holder and recipient of the Order of St. George.

Mr. Speaker, Captain Retzlaff's career reflects a legacy of leadership, professionalism, and patriotism. His service to our Nation has strengthened our armed forces and inspired those who served alongside him. It is my

honor to recognize his contributions and extend our deepest gratitude for his dedication to the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING DAISY RIVERA-
ALGARIN

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic American Heritage Month to honor an extraordinary advocate from Rochester, New York, Daisy Rivera-Algarin.

As a founding member of Latinas Unidas, Daisy Rivera-Algarin has long recognized the vital importance of representation, equity, and cultural pride in community leadership. When she saw that Latina voices were underrepresented in positions of influence, she took bold action, bringing together a group of Latina activists to chart a new path forward by creating Latinas Unidas. Today, the organization stands as a powerful testament to her vision of uplifting Latina women, connecting them with the tools and opportunities needed to thrive, and celebrating the enduring richness of their cultural heritage.

Daisy's leadership was also instrumental in creating La Marketa, serving as a vibrant marketplace and community gathering space where food, art, and culture unite. More than just a place to shop, La Marketa serves as a beacon of Rochester's Hispanic community, honoring traditions and offering a cultural home where generations can come together to celebrate their shared identity. It is a living legacy of Daisy's belief that culture is not only to be preserved but to be celebrated openly and proudly.

For nearly 25 years, Daisy carried this same commitment into public service through her work with Rochester city government. She began as a Business Development Associate and rose to become Director of Neighborhood Service Centers, where she worked tirelessly to ensure that residents had both a voice and a champion in City Hall. In 2024, her leadership and dedication were recognized with the NYS Women of Distinction Award. Across every role, Daisy combined professional expertise with a cultural perspective and compassion deeply rooted in her heritage.

It is a privilege to recognize Daisy Rivera-Algarin during Hispanic American Heritage Month. Her dedication to public service has made an immeasurable impact on our community and will continue to inspire future generations.

RECOGNIZING APPLEWOOD SEED
COMPANY

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Applewood Seed Company on their 60th year in business in Colorado.

Since their founding by Gene and Dee Milstein in 1965, the Applewood Seed Company has served countless local and inter-

national customers including professional growers, landscapers, retailers, and more. Over the past 60 years, Applewood Seed has emerged as a top flower seed supplier in the Nation, all while staying true to its roots as an employee-owned company.

In addition, Applewood Seed has evolved into a company dedicated to innovation within its field with research and development gardens, an extensive network of seed growers, and a state-of-the-art seed testing laboratory. They use new methods and human ingenuity to continue to create custom seed blends that fit the needs of any customer. As we continue to build a thriving and sustainable future, we look forward to having businesses like Applewood Seed at the forefront of our state's economic success.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate the Applewood Seed Company on their 60th anniversary and for their hard work and lasting impact in our community.

RECOGNIZING SARAH KAPLAN
FEINMANN

HON. LIZZIE FLETCHER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise with gratitude and affection to recognize the contributions of Sarah Kaplan Feinmann to Texas' 7th Congressional District, to the United States House of Representatives, and to the United States of America.

Sarah arrived in Washington, D.C., in 2011, after graduating cum laude from the University of Southern California with a Bachelor of Arts in Middle East Studies and International Relations. Sarah brought her passion and deep commitment to public service to her work at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. That commitment guided her to the Hill in 2013, where she worked over the years to help develop and implement meaningful policy through her work on the staff of the New Democrat Coalition and later her work in the Office of Congressman ERIC SWALWELL, where she served as a senior legislative assistant, senior advisor, and inaugural director of Future Forum. During that time, Sarah also earned her Master of Arts in Security Studies from Georgetown University.

At the start of the 116th Congress, in January 2019, Sarah joined my office as my first Chief of Staff for Texas' 7th Congressional District, serving her hometown and the people who live there enthusiastically and tirelessly. Sarah dedicated herself to building a team to serve the residents of Texas' 7th Congressional District at all times, and has done so during times of great challenge in the district and the country. Sarah led our office in efforts to ensure that our team is ready and able to do all it can for constituents in every possible circumstance, that our community's priorities are reflected in our work, and that our work delivers meaningful progress for people at home and across the country.

Sarah has been a partner and friend who has demonstrated her dedication to our district, to our staff, and to our country each day for nearly seven years. She has built lasting and meaningful relationships across the Hill.

She has served as a mentor for many. And she has made meaningful and lasting contributions that will continue to shape our office and our district in the years ahead.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Texas' 7th Congressional District, I express my deep and sincere gratitude, and my very best wishes, to Sarah Kaplan Feinmann and her family as they begin their new chapter off the Hill.

HONORING ECUMENICAL
Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew on his receipt of the Templeton Prize this September.

The Templeton Prize has been awarded to other prominent philanthropic figures including Jane Goodall, Desmond Tutu, and Mother Theresa. Established in 1972, the Prize was created by Sir John Templeton to recognize prominent spiritual discoveries and insights. 55 Laureates from all major faiths and numerous countries have received this prestigious award. Recipients of this prize have gone on to win the Nobel Peace Prize, with one even becoming a canonized saint.

As the leader of the Eastern Orthodox church, Ecumenical Patriarch has been working to achieve religious and ecological equality since he was elected in 1991. From holding interfaith seminars after 9/11, to cosponsoring international peace conferences, his leadership has exemplified humility and the inclusion of people from all backgrounds. His Holiness has also focused on climate issues and protecting our environment. As Ecumenical Patriarch, he organized symposiums with world-renowned scientists and was able to secure grants to combat the destruction of Europe's marine areas—efforts that landed him the title of "the Green Patriarch".

Before becoming Ecumenical Patriarch, Demetrios Arhondonis was born in Turkey and received his elementary and secondary education in Istanbul. He completed his undergraduate studies at the Theological School of Halki in 1972, before completing graduate studies at three different universities in Europe. He also obtained a doctorate from the University of Athens. After being ordained to the Diaconate and, years later, to the Priesthood, he became Assistant Dean at the Theological School of Halki before being appointed as the Personal Secretary to the late Ecumenical Patriarch Demetrios. These educational milestones were enhanced as he has been awarded over 10 honorary doctorates from globally recognized universities.

It should come as no surprise that after 36 years of leading the Eastern Orthodox church, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is receiving this award. It is with great respect that I honor his Holiness and his tireless efforts for equality and peace.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavailable, and I missed the following Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 277; YEA on Roll Call No. 278; and YEA on Roll Call No. 279.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, by mistake, I missed the vote on Roll Call No. 282 on September 19, 2025, which was the resolution honoring the life and legacy of Charlie Kirk. I would have voted in favor of this resolution, as Charlie was a valiant warrior for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and our great country.

RECOGNIZING ARVADA HIGH SCHOOL

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 125th anniversary of Arvada High School.

For more than a century, Arvada High School has been a central part of the community, empowering students with the tools they need to succeed in their future education. When the school first opened in 1899, only seven students were enrolled. Today, Arvada High has over 700 students enrolled and is now a leading institution for families in Jefferson County. Through its 125-year history, the school has adapted to meet the changing needs of its students through initiatives like the Empowerment Academy, which provides specialized support to students who require additional resources and increases equitable access to education.

The school's dedicated teachers and staff have guided generations of students and made Arvada High a cornerstone for community development in Jefferson County.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Arvada High School on its 125th anniversary and for its dedication to students in our community.

CELEBRATING PATRICIA MCARDLE PONTICELLO'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Patricia McArdle Ponticello, a remarkable constituent from my district. It is my

honor to celebrate her on her 100th birthday—a day marking a hundred years of love, laughter, and commitment to her family, friends, and community.

Born on September 23, 1925, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Patricia has experienced a full century of history, change, and milestones. Her life story stands not only as a testament to longevity, but also to stubbornness, grit, and an ability to outlast just about everyone.

Patricia graduated from St. Mary's High School in Halswood, Pennsylvania, before perfecting her skills at Beautician School, where she went on to cut and style for the Mellon Family.

She later served as a Guidance Counselor at the Gilmary Catholic School for Wayward Girls, which gave her the unique skills to manage her own sons, David, Bill, and Christopher.

Later, she made her home and spent many years in Clinton, Pennsylvania after marrying her husband, William David Ponticello. William served in the U.S. Navy, WWII, from 1942 to 1944 on an LST at the Normandy Invasion and later went on to work as a design engineer.

Her endless love and support filled the household with joy, laughter, and just enough discipline to keep everyone in line.

In 2003, Patricia moved to Bucks County to help her son raise his three boys. Beyond her dedication to her family, Patricia remained steadfast in her commitment to her faith. Patricia is a devout Catholic and is a member of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Hilltown, Pennsylvania. Her Catholic faith has served as a guiding light in her life—shaping her values and offering strength and clarity through life's many trials and triumphs.

Today, at 100 years old, Patricia enjoys family, strolls around her Dublin, Pennsylvania property and continuing her legendary reputation as "The Hawk." She loves an ice-cold beer, a strong margarita, and the occasional cigarette—because apparently that's the real secret to a long life.

Her idea of the perfect birthday? A pig roast surrounded by family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to please join me in raising a glass—preferably a cold one—and extending our heartfelt congratulations, sincere well-wishes, and all of God's blessings to Patricia Ponticello on the celebration of her 100th birthday.

RECOGNIZING LUCIA COLINDRES

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic American Heritage Month to recognize an outstanding leader from Rochester, New York, Lucia Colindres.

Originally from El Salvador, Lucia Colindres came to the United States in 1989, bringing with her a spirit of resilience and service that has defined her life's work. Since that time, she has established herself as a beacon of light in Rochester, devoting her career to championing equity and addressing the most pressing needs of the Latino community.

As Chief Program Officer of the Ibero-American Action League, Lucia leads with vision

and determination, overseeing vital health initiatives that strengthen families across the region by addressing social determinants such as access to care, nutrition, and housing. Previously, in senior leadership at Rochester Regional Health, she spearheaded innovative pro-Medicaid programs that prioritized prevention and compassion by tackling the root causes of health crises. Through her leadership, Lucia has ensured that Latino families in Rochester are not only supported in times of need but also empowered to build healthier and more fulfilling lives.

Lucia's influence extends beyond institutions into the broader community. As a founding member of the Community Health Workers Association of Rochester, she has worked tirelessly to advance and professionalize a workforce that is indispensable to the well-being of families. Through every role she has held, Lucia Colindres has exemplified what it means to lead with both vision and heart by strengthening Rochester, uplifting families, and building a legacy of service that will endure for generations.

It is an honor to recognize Lucia Colindres during Hispanic American Heritage Month. Her leadership has strengthened our community, advanced equity, and created opportunities that will endure for generations.

COMMEMORATING THE FINAL FLIGHT OF THE BRAVO COMPANY, 7-158TH CHINOOK HELICOPTER GENERAL SUPPORT AVIATION BATTALION

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the final flight of the Bravo Company, 7-158th Chinook Helicopter General Support Aviation Battalion based out of the New Century AirCenter on September 7, 2025. As a result of the Army Transformation Initiative, the unit was officially deactivated on September 15, 2025.

Based at New Century Airport for more than 40 years, this unit has become a staple in Gardner, Kansas and the surrounding community. From the familiar sight of the Chinooks flying over Gardner, to the generations of families brought to our community through their service at New Century, the unit leaves behind decades of memories.

I am deeply grateful to the soldiers and their families who were a part of this unit, especially those service members who paid the ultimate sacrifice. Our nation and communities are better and safer because of their service.

Furthermore, I want to express my strong support for the current service members who are facing uncertainty in the aftermath of the unit's deactivation. I urge Army leadership to keep these dedicated service members in mind as they continue with the Army Transformation Initiative. After all our service members and veterans have done for us, we must have their backs.

RECOGNIZING MICHELE MANATT FOR HER SERVICE TO THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF POLITICAL MANAGEMENT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF THE COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Michele Manatt for her service at The George Washington University Graduate School of Political Management (GSPM), where she has served on the board since 2021, and for her contributions to our Nation.

A native Washingtonian, Ms. Manatt graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, where she studied political economy. After graduation, she returned to the District of Columbia to begin her career in public policy and international affairs.

Ms. Manatt served as a professional staff member on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, where her portfolio included oversight of the United States' relationships with Canada and Mexico and countries throughout Central and South America. She went on to serve as Senior Policy Advisor to three consecutive Assistant Secretaries of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs at the U.S. Department of State, helping to manage policy in the region. She continued her public service as Director of Legislative Affairs at the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Since 2006, Ms. Manatt has worked as an independent consultant, providing strategic insight into hemispheric policy and social integration. She contributed to a multiyear initiative with the Americas Society/Council of the Americas to document and explore successful models of Hispanic integration in midsized American cities.

Ms. Manatt has been a leader in public diplomacy. She currently serves on the board of the Diplomacy Center Foundation, the private partner supporting the completion of the National Museum of American Diplomacy at the U.S. Department of State's headquarters campus. She was the founding chair of the Council on Women's Leadership at the Meridian International Center, fostering dialogue and leadership development for women in support of Track II diplomacy. She has always been fascinated by the power of fashion. She says diplomats defend U.S. interests not in uniforms, but in suits, blouses, ties and, in her case, scarves.

As a member of the GSPM board, Ms. Manatt has provided strategic counsel to ensure that students benefited from a strong, bipartisan academic environment and were exposed to diverse career paths. Through her family's philanthropy, she has also supported other parts of The George Washington University, including the law school, the Graduate School of Education and Human Development, the Elliott School of International Affairs and the Textile Museum.

Mr. Speaker, as Ms. Manatt concludes her service on the GSPM board, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking her for her contributions to The George Washington University and to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE EVERGREEN HIGH SCHOOL SHOOTING

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN
OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tragic shooting at Evergreen High School in Evergreen, Colorado, that occurred on September 10, 2025.

This senseless act of violence has left students, educators, and the greater Evergreen community in shock and grief. Two victims were hospitalized, and countless others are coping with the trauma of that day.

The courage of first responders, educators, staff, and community members helped prevent further harm and demonstrated the strength of our community in the face of crisis. Students and faculty at the school promptly followed safety protocols that saved lives, and a nearby recreation center employee sheltered more than 70 students until the danger had passed. The vigilance and quick action of community members inside and outside the school helped ensure the safety of students and staff.

The Jefferson County Sheriff, Reggie Marinelli, and the entire Police Department quickly responded with extraordinary service, arriving in under two minutes. That swift response saved lives and provided reassurance to the Evergreen community in its greatest moment of need.

In the aftermath of the incident, the Evergreen Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) mobilized to provide on-the-ground support for the community, including mental health resources, warm meals, and safe spaces. These community volunteers—in addition to many other supportive groups and organizations—have played a critical role in connecting families with needed services and ensuring the entire community has everything they need to re-enter their school.

Like far too many communities across Colorado and the Nation, this is not the first time the Evergreen community has been touched by gun violence. Yet, in the aftermath of this tragedy, Evergreen has demonstrated extraordinary resilience, uniting in support of one another as the process of healing begins.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, I stand with the Evergreen community, offer my condolences to the victims and their families, and reaffirm my commitment to ensuring every child can go to school without fear for their safety.

HONORING RICHARD "DICK" KEIGWIN

HON. ADAM GRAY
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. GRAY. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and Congressman KEVIN MULLIN, I rise today to honor the life of Richard "Dick" Keigwin, a loving father and an employee of Nabisco and Kraft Food for 35 years. Richard was born on May 8, 1944, and passed away on September 5, 2025, at the age of 81. It is my honor to recognize a man who spent his life uplifting young people and caring for his family.

Richard served his Marlborough, Massachusetts community in a multitude of ways. He coached Marlborough Little League, Northborough Little League, Boys Club Basketball, and CYO Basketball. His devotion to coaching and mentoring earned him the title of "Father of the Year" by the Marlborough Boys Club. He was also awarded Man and Boy of the Year 1987.

Richard was adored by his family. He and his wife Cheryl Keigwin were married for 59 years. He is survived by Cheryl and his sons, Richard Keigwin, Jr., Bryan Keigwin, and Adam Keigwin, along with grandchildren and great grandchildren. Richard loved spending time with his family and especially enjoyed watching History Channel and National Geographic.

Adam and the Keigwin family are lifelong friends, and it is an honor to recognize Richard and his contributions to his community.

RECOGNIZING UNITED STATES NAVY RADIOMAN PETTY OFFICER 3RD CLASS NATALE "NATE" JOHN SCARPELLI

HON. LISA C. MCCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with deep respect and admiration to recognize the remarkable service of Radioman Petty Officer 3rd Class Natale "Nate" Scarpelli, a proud veteran of the United States Navy and our distinguished Veteran of the Month for October 2025 from Michigan's 9th Congressional District. His courage, dedication, and sacrifice during World War II reflect the very best of the American spirit.

Radioman Scarpelli answered his country's call to service in 1942. He enlisted in the United States Navy and was assigned as a Radioman Petty Officer 3rd Class aboard the USS *Moreno* (AT-87). He joined his ship in North Africa, becoming the youngest member of a seasoned crew.

The USS *Moreno* played a critical role in the war effort, carrying out dangerous missions that included firefighting, towing disabled warships, deploying depth charges, underwater welding, and escort operations. Radioman Scarpelli's skill as a radioman, communicating through Morse code and signal lamp, kept the crew connected during critical engagements. He also served as the ship's marksman, helping set sights on its 5-inch cannon, 40mm guns, and long-range weapons.

Radioman Scarpelli's service brought him to the frontlines of some of the war's most pivotal campaigns. The USS *Moreno* supported the Allied invasion of Sicily, clearing the coastline for advancing Army units. Later, it provided support during the Invasion of Southern France. During combat, Radioman Scarpelli was wounded by land artillery and treated at a field hospital before rejoining his ship, where he continued his duties, including cutting mine cables and neutralizing deadly sea mines.

In one remarkable mission, the USS *Moreno* captured a German one-man submarine armed with a torpedo. The vessel was brought aboard for inspection, drawing the attention of senior military leadership eager to study its design.

Radioman Scarpelli also served alongside his three brothers: Frank, who fought in the Pacific with the Army; John, who took part in the invasion of Northern France; and Augie, who manned guns on a Navy merchant ship in the Pacific. Their shared service reflects the extraordinary sense of duty and sacrifice that defined their generation.

After the war, which he served through 1945, Radioman Scarpelli returned home to Michigan. He completed a tool and die apprenticeship, earned a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering, and began a distinguished career at Ford Motor Company in Manufacturing Engineering. There, he developed an innovative single-piece rear differential system that was later acquired by MIT. He married in 1953, retired at age 55, and spent the decades that followed traveling the world, remaining dedicated to his family, faith, and community.

Mr. Speaker, Nate Scarpelli's life is a testament to service and resilience. Whether on the deck of the USS *Moreno* or in the engineering halls of Ford Motor Company, his contributions strengthened both our Nation's security and its industry. It is my distinct honor to recognize him as our Veteran of the Month for October 2025.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavailable, and I missed the following Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 267; YEA on Roll Call No. 268; YEA on Roll Call No. 269; YEA on Roll Call No. 270; and YEA on Roll Call No. 271.

RECOGNIZING JASON BARBER

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic American Heritage Month to recognize an extraordinary artist, educator, and community leader from Rochester, New York, Jason Barber.

As a Cuban-American artist and educator, Jason Barber has devoted his creative journey to exploring the intersection of memory and place, weaving together Rochester's histories with the lived experiences of its people. His work reflects on how communities preserve memory, identity, and family history, often drawing inspiration from our city's legacy as the birthplace of modern photography through Kodak Park.

Beyond his artistic practice, Jason manages the International Plaza, a vibrant cultural and economic hub that celebrates the diversity of Rochester, New York. Under his leadership, the Plaza has grown into a welcoming space where small businesses, artists, and community members share food and traditions from around the world. His guidance has uplifted local entrepreneurs while fostering stronger connections across the region.

Jason's heritage and perspective deeply inform his approach to both art and education. With more than a decade of experience in the arts and nonprofit sectors, he has worked tirelessly to bridge culture and community. His career includes leadership roles as a Creative Consultant and Gallery Director with organizations such as the Rochester Brainery, Oxford Gallery, Memorial Art Gallery, and The Yards Art Collective. Through these roles, Jason has fostered collaborations across disciplines, enriching Rochester's cultural fabric and ensuring that creativity remains a force for connection and inclusion.

It is with great pride and admiration that I recognize Jason Barber this Hispanic American Heritage Month. His advocacy continues to uplift and enrich our community, leaving a lasting impact for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING FOOTHILLS REGIONAL HOUSING

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Foothills Regional Housing (FRH), who is celebrating their 50th anniversary of serving as the public housing authority for Jefferson County, Colorado.

First created in the fall of 1975, Foothills Regional Housing has worked to meet the growing housing needs of Jefferson County by preserving existing affordable housing units and developing new ones. In addition to supporting low-income renters by administering over 1,800 vouchers through the Department of Housing and Urban Development, FRH also supports low-income homeowners through their Emergency Home Repair Program.

Under the leadership of Executive Director Lori Rosendahl, FRH has built award-winning new developments like the Ives in Wheat Ridge and the AVi at Olde Town in Arvada, which have been recognized for their thoughtful design and emphasis on supporting residents. I look forward to seeing what the next 50 years will bring for FRH as they continue to provide critical housing resources for our community.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Foothills Regional Housing on their 50th anniversary and thank them for all they do for our community.