

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE OF HOWARD DOUGLAS "DOUG" WINSTEAD, JR.

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Mr. Howard Douglas "Doug" Winstead, Jr.

A talented member of the legendary Band of Oz, Doug tragically passed away on April 11, 2026, in an automobile accident while traveling between shows.

Doug was an integral member of The Band of Oz, renowned for its Carolina beach music that provided the soundtrack to many lives in the Carolinas and beyond. Born in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, Doug's love for music began at an early age. He quickly took to performing, learning to play the trumpet, trombone, guitar, bass, and piano. By the age of 18, Doug launched his musical career, performing with multiple bands before becoming a proud member of the legendary Band of Oz.

Doug's performances were truly one of a kind. His energy and joy were infectious, and he consistently created memorable experiences for his audiences. He also made a point to connect personally with fans, often taking time to thank them one-on-one for their support and attendance.

Doug leaves behind a lasting legacy in the music industry and in the lives of his family. He is survived by his wife, Deanna; his daughter, Amy; and his mother, Jill. While Doug left this world too soon, his talent and love for music will continue to resonate across generations.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring Doug Winstead and the remarkable contributions he made to the world of music throughout his 67 years of life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, due to airline schedules, my flight was delayed. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 138, and YEA on Roll Call No. 139.

ENSURING CHILDREN RECEIVE SUPPORT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise to include in the RECORD an exchange of let-

ters with the Foreign Affairs Committee on H.R. 6903

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, April 23, 2026.

Hon. JASON SMITH,
Chairman, House Committee on Ways and Means, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Foreign Affairs on the text of H.R. 6903, the Ensuring Children Receive Support Act. I agree that Foreign Affairs may be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House Floor.

This agreement is made with the understanding that it does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or prejudice our jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future. I also request your support for the appointment of an appropriate number of Foreign Affairs conferees to any House-Senate conference that might occur on this legislation.

I would appreciate it if you could include this letter in your committee report on the bill or place it into the RECORD during Floor consideration. I look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

BRIAN MAST,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, April 23, 2026.

Hon. BRIAN MAST,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MAST: Thank you for your letter regarding the Committee on Foreign Affairs' jurisdictional interest in H.R. 6903, the "Ensuring Children Receive Support Act," and your willingness to forego consideration by your committee.

I agree that the Committee on Foreign Affairs has a valid jurisdictional interest in certain provisions of the bill and that the Committee's jurisdiction will not be adversely affected by your decision to forego consideration. As you have requested, I will support your request for an appropriate appointment of outside conferees from your committee in the event of a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation should such a conference be convened.

Finally, I will include a copy of your letter and this response in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD during the floor consideration of the bill. Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

JASON SMITH,
Chairman.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF RANDY JOE HOPPERT, JR.

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Representative

VINCE FONG, to honor the life and legacy of Deputy Randy Joe Hoppert, Jr. A Central Valley native, Deputy Hoppert dedicated his life to protecting the people of Tulare County with integrity, courage, and a deep sense of purpose.

On April 9, 2026, he made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty, leaving behind a legacy that will endure in the community he served and among all who knew him.

Deputy Hoppert was raised in Visalia, California, graduating from El Diamante High School before answering the call to serve in the United States Navy. As a Hospital Corpsman from 2010 to 2015, he provided critical care to sailors and Marines during two deployments.

After his service in the Navy, Deputy Hoppert reaffirmed his commitment to public safety by enrolling in the Tulare Kings Police Academy in 2019. A year later, he joined the Tulare County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy I assigned to the Patrol Division out of the Orosi Substation. He was quickly promoted to Deputy II and then reassigned in 2022 as a detective with the TAGNET Unit. In 2025, he was assigned to the Sheriff's office CATTCH Unit and served as a SWAT medic, using his military medical expertise to ensure timely trauma care for officers and others during critical, high-risk operations. He will be sorely missed by both the Tulare County Sheriff's Office and the community he protected and served so valiantly.

Deputy Hoppert is survived by his wife, Ashley; his sons, Austin and Everhett; his unborn son, Levi; his mother, Stacy Schwab; his father, Randy Hoppert, Sr.; and countless loved ones who will carry on his memory.

Mr. Speaker, Representative VINCE FONG and I ask our colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in honoring the life and legacy of Deputy Randy Joe Hoppert, Jr. His courage, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment to others will never be forgotten.

HONORING RICHARD DALE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard Dale, whom I have named California's 4th Congressional District's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year for Sonoma County, in recognition of his leadership in strengthening our community's commitment to a sustainable future.

Born in San Francisco, California, Mr. Dale graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz, where he earned his bachelor's degree in environmental studies. After graduation, he worked in Washington, D.C. on the Alaska Lands Bill, which protected over 157 million acres of land in Alaska. Following the bill's successful passage, Mr. Dale moved to Sonoma County where he went on to co-found

• 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.

the Sonoma Ecology Center (SEC) in 1990, later becoming its Executive Director in 1992.

Through his tenure as Executive Director, the SEC has developed into a locally driven, regionally respected agency working through extensive partnerships to conduct technical research, education, and restoration to enhance ecological health at the watershed scale. He has worked for years with partners to preserve thousands of acres of ecologically significant open space and to establish the regionally significant Sonoma Valley Wildlife Corridor. In 2012, he led a unique partnership of local nonprofits to reopen and manage Sugarloaf Ridge State Park in Kenwood, California. He helped found the North Bay Climate Adaptation Initiative and the Sonoma Environmental Education Collaborative (SEEC). After the 2017 fires, he helped establish Sonoma Valley Collaborative, a partnership of economic, social service, and environmental interests to build a cross-sector framework for resolving complex, interrelated issues. He has served as Vice President on the Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce, cofounded the Sonoma Valley Executive Directors Round Table, and currently serves on the steering committee for Sonoma Valley Collaborative.

Mr. Dale is a staple of Sonoma Valley's ecological community, helping associations across the county thrive under his leadership. In 2017, he was the recipient of Sonoma County's Jefferson Award for Public Service and the Sonoma County Economic Development Board's Spirit of Sonoma Award. In 1997, he received the John Muir Conservation Award. Mr. Dale is also a frequent contributor to the Sonoma Index Tribune and other publications.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Richard Dale has helped transform Sonoma County and preserve the natural beauty that it is known for. Through his leadership and vision, our community has become a better place to live. For these reasons and more, it is fitting and proper that we recognize him today as Sonoma County's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF RABBI BARUCH J. COHON

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the 100th birthday of Rabbi Baruch J. Cohon.

Rabbi Cohon has led a remarkable life. Over the years, he has been a world-class Cantor, served in the U.S. Navy as a sonarman during World War II, worked as a TV producer and composer, and served as an ordained Rabbi, among many other pursuits. He truly has an exceptional legacy.

In his time in television, he worked as a producer and writer for well-known shows like *Sea Hunt* and *Cisco Kid* and taught Gene Wilder how to pray in the traditional Jewish style for the film, *The Frisco Kid*.

Rabbi Cohon has also been a concert artist, choir conductor and arranger, recording artist, published author and editor, a university and seminary professor, philanthropist, and held leadership roles both locally and nationally.

His published article on the structure of Jewish music remains the standard for understanding it on an academic level.

Rabbi Cohon moved to Southern Arizona in 2019, having previously served as a visiting rabbi and teacher at several Southern Arizona congregations throughout many visits over the years.

He is a highly respected figure in the Jewish community here who is still very much active, regularly assisting in leading services and reading the Torah nearly every Shabbat and festival.

Additionally, Rabbi Cohon established the Cohon Memorial Foundation in memory of his own parents, which provides a large annual gift to those whose work benefits the Jewish community as a whole.

Dearly devoted to his family, Rabbi Cohon spends as much time as he can with his four children, seven grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

I thank Rabbi Baruch J. Cohon for his decades of service in so many different capacities. I wish him a very happy 100th birthday.

COMMEMORATING ARMED FORCES DAY AND THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVE IN THE UNITED STATES MILITARY

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the service of our brave men and women for Armed Forces Day, May 16, 2026. Armed Forces Day is a 76-year tradition to thank all of those who are currently serving, as well as those who have served and sacrificed to defend our freedom. As we celebrate the 250th birthday of the United States of America, it is my privilege to recognize the contributions our active military members continue to make to our great Nation. Freedom was never free, and the men and women who stand up with valor and courage must always be held in the highest regard.

As we speak, the Western New York Armed Forces Committee is preparing to recognize fourteen service members at its 63rd Military Ball, and it is my honor to include in the RECORD their names as a tribute to their service, and the service of their brothers and sisters in arms:

SSG Owen Silver—United States Army
SFC Ashley Blake—United States Army Reserve
SPC Trevor Lock—New York Army National Guard
Sgt. Jonathan D. Rieth—New York Guard
SSgt. Kelsey Trevino—United States Marine Corps
Cpl. Keane Kistner—United States Marine Corps Reserve
MA1 Jordan Costello—United States Navy
MA1 Amanda Paine—United States Navy Reserve
Cpl. Wilyin Gao—New York Naval Militia
SSgt. Danny Garrett—United States Air Force
SSgt. Cameron Swick—United States Air Force Reserve
TSgt. Gary Buchanan—New York Air National Guard
MST1 Martin Mueller—United States Coast Guard

MST2 Krishnan Muthaiah—United States Coast Guard Reserve

Western New York and the Southern Tier are home to many proud service members and veterans, and our community has a long and proud tradition of military service. It is my honor to recognize their bravery. On behalf of the United States Congress and the constituents of New York's 23rd Congressional District, I thank these men and women for their service and all those who continue to serve with them.

HONORING YUSEF MGENI

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of an extraordinary man and revered community leader, Mr. Yusef Mgeni. Yusef passed away on April 7, 2026, at age 77, following a lengthy illness. He is survived by his wife, Iva Jean Mgeni; his son, Victor Mgeni; and his daughter, Aisha Mgeni.

Born Charles Anderson to parents Charles Crane Anderson, a shoe cobbler, and Theresa Agnes Baker Anderson, Yusef is a son of Saint Paul's Rondo neighborhood, a predominantly African American community, most of which was demolished to make way for Interstate 94 in the late 1950s. The grandnephew of former slave and civil rights leader Frederick McGhee, Minnesota's first Black attorney and founder of the state's first Black Catholic church, Yusef was keenly aware of and extremely proud of his lineage.

In the early 1970s, Yusef changed his name from Charles Anderson to Yusef Mgeni in an African naming ceremony and later in a court of law. Yusef, a Yoruba name meaning "God increases" or "a person seeking wisdom to benefit others," and Mgeni, a Swahili word meaning "guest," "visitor," or "foreigner," were aptly chosen, foreshadowing the path that would define his life's work.

Yusef graduated from Metropolitan State University in 1974 with a degree in journalism. He began producing programming for the University of Minnesota's radio station, KUOM, and later helped expand Minneapolis-based KMOJ, which began broadcasting in 1976 to serve Black residents of public housing in North Minneapolis. Over time, the station broadened its reach while continuing to provide community-centered programming led by Black residents.

A brilliant historian, educator, community organizer, and activist, Yusef joined the Saint Paul NAACP in 1988, where he eventually became Vice President and Branch Parliamentarian. Yusef played a key role in landmark negotiations with the Saint Paul Police Department, resulting in a mediated agreement addressing racial profiling. Years later, Yusef successfully negotiated for body-worn cameras to be worn by officers, which became an amendment to this agreement.

As a scholar and educator, Yusef was Director of the Office of Educational Equity for the Saint Paul Public Schools from 2006 to 2012. He was a champion for ethnic studies in Minnesota schools, believing that ethnic studies are American history and not a supplement to it—a way for everyone to see themselves reflected in what they are learning.

Yusef's lifelong contributions to the Black community in Minnesota covered a wide swath, including his work with the African American Leadership Council, Saint Paul's Hallie Q. Brown Center, the Urban Coalition, the Saint Paul Urban League, the Sabathani Community Center, the Million Man March, and Saint Paul Strong. He was interviewed for the Rondo Neighborhood Oral History Project, preserved by the Minnesota Historical Society, in which he reflected on his life's work.

Yusef was very special to me and to the constituents of Minnesota's 4th Congressional District. As a leader in Saint Paul's Black community and the Rondo neighborhood, Yusef reached out to me personally over the years, not only in his capacity as a local leader, but also as my neighbor. We were able to have many deep, valuable, and meaningful conversations about the history of the Rondo neighborhood and Saint Paul's Black community. I learned so much from those conversations, which repeatedly proved helpful to me in my work as a member of Congress. I fondly remember some of those conversations taking place on bitterly cold January mornings as we marched together in celebration of the life of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

It was my great honor and privilege to call Yusef a friend. He has been an inspiration to me, and his legacy will continue to inspire many for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the remarkable life and powerful work of Mr. Yusef Mgeni.

CONGRATULATING THE HOCHIN COMMUNITY BLOOD BANK ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Houchin Community Blood Bank on its 75th anniversary and recognize its decades of service providing a safe and reliable blood supply to families in Kern County and across the Central Valley.

Founded in April 1951 through the generosity of C. Elmer Houchin and the Houchin Foundation, the blood bank was established in memory of his mother, who needed transfusions during her fight with cancer. As the first blood bank in Kern County, Houchin made lifesaving care more accessible and ensured residents no longer had to travel long distances for critical treatment.

For over 70 years, the Houchin Community Blood Bank has undergone several significant improvements to meet the needs of our community. Over the past several decades, Houchin has expanded its reach with multiple new medical facilities for blood collection and processing. In addition, they have upgraded their technologies to ensure the highest quality testing and collection. Today, the bank serves all of Bakersfield and Kern County through multiple collection and processing sites. Thanks to these efforts, and the generosity of countless donors, Houchin has helped save more than 3 million lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Houchin Community Blood Bank on this remarkable milestone. As Kern County's only truly local blood provider, their commitment to service has greatly contributed to ending the blood supply shortage, saved countless lives, and improved access to care.

HONORING CHRISTINA BENZ

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Christina Benz, whom I have named the California 4th District's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year for Napa County, in recognition of her leadership in strengthening our community's commitment to a sustainable future.

Born in Concord, Massachusetts, Mrs. Benz graduated from the University of California, Berkeley in 1979 with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. After growing interested in viticulture, she went on to pursue a Master of Science in Food Science at the University of California, Davis. She then moved to Napa and began to work with our wine community. During that period, she worked at Murphy-Goode and Laird Family Estates as a Winemaker and then as a Winery Production Manager for 37 Vintages. She has since retired and grown more active in Napa County's political and environmental groups.

Mrs. Benz has helped to strengthen and build organizations that are dedicated to making our county more sustainable and cleaner. Over the last four years she has helped to organize and plan the "Annual Napa Climate Summit," an event that has become a staple of Napa County and regularly attracts audiences of 200 or more. Additionally, the event puts a much-needed spotlight on the existential threat of climate change and how residents of the Napa Valley can help mitigate its harmful effects. She is also a frequent contributor to the Napa Register's Climate Connections column, where she informs concerned citizens across the Napa Valley of local progress and ways to participate in taking climate action. Most prominently, she drafted and advocated for a "Climate Change and Sustainability" element in the 2040 City of Napa General Plan that was adopted in 2022. This element is especially important as it embeds sustainability as a core principle of the City of Napa's General Plan and commits that the city will have net-zero climate pollutants by 2030. She was also able to secure funding for the Napa River Ecology Center in American Canyon from the Sierra Club. The Ecology Center will create a community gathering space for future generations. It is dedicated to educating the public about the importance of the Napa River's wetlands and working to defend them.

Mrs. Benz is a staple of our Napa Valley community and participates in numerous organizations dedicated to the health of North Bay and Napa County. She has served on the Executive Committee of the Napa Group of the Sierra Club, the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Napa Valley Transportation Authority,

and the Board of the Napa Valley Vine Trail. She has helped guide our Napa County community as the Treasurer of Napa Green, a member of the Executive Committee of the Democrats of Napa Valley, and as a board member of Feeding It Forward.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Christina Benz has dedicated herself to protecting our environment and educating others about its importance. Her selfless commitment towards our community and the people who live within it is unmatched. For these reasons and more, it is fitting and proper that we recognize her today as Napa County's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year.

CELEBRATING THE FLANDRAU SCIENCE CENTER & PLANETARIUM'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the University of Arizona's Flandrau Science Center & Planetarium's 50th Anniversary and the opening of their newest exhibit, *Mysteries of the Cosmos*.

The Science Center & Planetarium started as a result of the efforts of expert University of Arizona scientists and leadership, along with generous funds from the estate of author and Tucson visitor Grace H. Flandrau in 1972.

Recognizing the University of Arizona's excellence in astronomy and space science, the Arizona Board of Regents approved the formation of Flandrau that same year, and construction began in 1974.

From the moment the Flandrau Science Center & Planetarium opened its doors in 1975, it has provided visitors with immersive educational experiences.

Through the use of tools including interactive displays, digital features, laser light shows, large-scale models, and science lectures, the Flandrau Science Center & Planetarium has made studying the stars accessible to the public.

With the immersion of new planetarium technologies throughout the years, Flandrau has gone through renovations to ensure visitors get a well-rounded and unforgettable experience.

The Science Center & Planetarium has opened several new exhibits since its opening, many of which feature the incredibly talented faculty and their transformational research happening within the College of Science and at the University of Arizona.

The newest exhibit, *Mysteries of the Cosmos: Life in the Universe*, opens tonight. This new interactive exhibit is an exciting milestone that will further strengthen the Science Center & Planetarium's ability to bring the wonder of the stars down to Tucson.

To the Flandrau leadership and staff who have dedicated their time to this extraordinary center, and to the individuals who made the Science Center & Planetarium possible in the first place, I congratulate them on 50 years.

Here's to many more years to come and the future generations who will walk through their doors to learn about our incredible universe.

HONORING THE NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION'S 65TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CLAY FULLER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. FULLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 65th anniversary of the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, a remarkable milestone.

In the late 1950s, visionaries T. Harley Harper and Fred F. Starr championed a bold idea for regional cooperation. By 1961, that vision became a reality, launching the first multi-county organization of its kind in Georgia—and creating a model for the entire Nation.

What began as a pioneering association has evolved into the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission. Today, it proudly serves fifteen counties, forty-eight municipalities, and nearly one million Georgians. From economic development to workforce and aging services, the Commission tirelessly improves our citizens' quality of life. Furthermore, they operate with incredible efficiency, delivering a \$38 return on investment for every single local dollar received.

Please join me in commending the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission on sixty-five years of outstanding official service to our communities and the great State of Georgia.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON ESTES

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for the following Roll Call vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: YEA on Roll Call No. 138, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended of H.R. 7959, IRS Whistleblower Program Improvement Act, and YEA on Roll Call vote No. 139, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended of H.R. 227, Clergy Act.

CELEBRATING PIMA AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of one of my district's signature attractions for residents and visitors alike—the Pima Air and Space Museum.

This incredible museum is a fun and informative tribute to our Nation's unstoppable determination to soar—literally.

The Pima Air and Space Museum opened its doors on May 8, 1976, but the idea for the museum started a decade earlier, when Air Force Colonel I.R. Perkin and the Tucson chapter of the Air Force Association established the Tucson Air Museum Foundation of Pima County.

Thanks to their dedicated efforts, the Pima Air and Space Museum began preserving the aircraft that helped us win World War II and other examples of our storied aviation past.

Several of the museum's founders were World War II veterans who witnessed firsthand a large part of our aviation history. The Pima Air and Space Museum took off as a way to give future generations a glimpse into our Nation's pioneering aviation advancements.

Since the museum's opening, it has grown to include several hangars and many compelling exhibits—it is home to around 400 examples of planes and aircraft equipment spanning more than 100 years of aviation history.

Pima Air and Space Museum is one of America's largest non-government funded aviation museums. It really is a must-see. Its collection of military and civilian aircraft is truly unique.

The Pima Air and Space Museum reminds visitors where we started in aviation, how far we've come, and how we as Americans refused to let anything hold us back.

I congratulate Pima Air and Space Museum on the past half a century. Here's to the decades ahead and many more visitors who will get to experience America's aviation history up close.

HONORING SEAN MCNAMARA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sean McNamara, whom I have named the California 4th District's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year for Solano County in recognition of his leadership in strengthening our community's commitment to a sustainable future.

Born in Winters, California, Mr. McNamara grew up working on his family's walnut farm in Solano County. He went on to graduate from Georgetown University with a Bachelor of Arts in American Studies. After completing his degree, he returned to his family's 300-acre farm which is the largest regenerative organic walnut farm in the world, Sierra Orchards in California. Mr. McNamara, along with his sister and farm team, manages Sierra Orchards.

After spending more time managing the orchards, Mr. McNamara was shocked by how conventional agricultural practices can devastate the microbes that enrich our soil. He was determined to adopt management plans that promote life and sustainability in his farming. Every crop he grows is planted with climate resiliency in mind. He began using sheep grazing instead of relying on pesticides, created an orchard recycling program in lieu of open burning, composted agricultural waste instead of discarding it, and took a regenerative approach to farming to ensure that the soil remained healthy. Under this management style, Sierra Orchards uses 30 percent less water and 50 percent less diesel than conventionally farmed walnut operations. Additionally, Sierra Orchards does not rely on off-farm agricultural inputs, which significantly reduces their carbon footprint.

Mr. McNamara shares the best practices utilized at Sierra Orchards with others to help promote sustainability. He regularly collaborates with researchers from different University of California campuses, California Association with Family Farmers, the Solano County Farm Bureau, and Western Growers. Due to his openness and willingness to donate his time to these research-based organizations, significant breakthroughs will be made in the world of science and ecology.

Mr. McNamara is dedicated to supporting our Solano County community and serves as a board member of the Winters Chamber of Commerce, Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee, Putah Creek Council, and Rios to Rivers. Mr. McNamara married his wife, Sarah Ashkin, in March 2023. They are blessed with one son named Rylee.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. McNamara's approach to ecology is incredibly effective and his willingness to share his discoveries with others makes him an invaluable asset to our community. His resilience, kindness, and unwavering dedication to ecological justice make him a powerful role model in Solano County and beyond. For these reasons and more, it is fitting and proper that we recognize him today as Solano County's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I missed two votes in the vote series on April 27, 2026. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 139, final passage of H.R. 227, the Clergy Act, and YEA on Roll Call No. 138, final passage of H.R. 7959, the IRS Whistleblower Program Improvement Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I missed two votes on April 27, 2026, due to personal obligations. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 138, and YEA on Roll Call No. 139.

HONORING MARANA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th Anniversary of Marana Unified School District. For the past century, Marana Unified has excelled in its one very important mission: educating our children.

Marana Unified School District takes its responsibility seriously and over the past 100 years has forged a well-deserved reputation for academic excellence.

Marana's top-quality schools are high on the list of reasons that families want to live in Marana.

The district has grown to include twenty schools—Tangerine Farms K–8 and Marana Vista Academy opened just last year. It now serves 13,000 students from preschool through 12th grade and is home to 2,000 dedicated employees.

Ranked in the top 1 percent of Arizona districts for academic growth, Marana Unified provides an exceptional education to all its students, from kindergarten to high school.

The district offers a wide array of outstanding academic programs, including an advanced Special Education program, a Gifted and Talented Education program, and 21st Century Community Learning Center opportunities to foster college and career readiness.

In addition to academics, Marana Unified also excels in its athletic programs. Throughout the decades, the district has built a legacy of athletic excellence, from championship football and basketball teams to competitive volleyball, soccer, and tennis programs.

I congratulate Marana Unified School District, Superintendent Dr. Dan Streeter, teachers and staff, and students and families on 100 years of academic excellence.

Their commitment to learning and growth has made education in Marana what it is today. If it is true that education is the key to a better future—and I firmly believe it is—then Marana is where those keys are made.

May they enjoy this accomplishment. Here is to the many years ahead and generations of Marana students to come who will be impacted by their work.

CONGRATULATING CHIEF DARRELL FISHER OF NEW HOLLAND EMS

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Darrell Fisher, Chief of the New Holland EMS, for being named the recipient of the 2026 Dr. George Moerkirk Memorial Outstanding Contributions to EMS Award.

Chief Fisher has been an EMT since 2001 and has served as Chief of New Holland EMS, based in eastern Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, since 2006. Beginning in 2016, Chief Fisher has also served as president of the Lancaster County EMS Council. In these roles, Chief Fisher has been instrumental in the development and support of pilot projects and education initiatives, as well as the implementation of innovative technology, both in Lancaster County and the region.

During his tenure, New Holland EMS has seen tremendous growth. In 2024, he oversaw the creation of a mental health symposium and support program for EMS providers and their family members. In 2019, New Holland EMS merged with Leola Ambulance, was upgraded to an Advanced Life Support (Paramedic) Agency in 2025, and became the fourth paramedic level agency in the state to be able to carry and administer whole blood.

The Dr. George Moerkirk Memorial Outstanding Contributions to EMS Award is named after Dr. George Moerkirk, the past president of the Pennsylvania EMS Council, who was a pioneer of emergency medical

services in the state. For the innovation and dedication that he provides to the field, whether in New Holland, Lancaster County, or the state, Chief Fisher is more than a worthy recipient of this prestigious award. I congratulate Darrell Fisher and the New Holland EMS on their statewide recognition, and thank them for all they do to keep our communities safe.

HONORING DR. RUIHONG ZHANG

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Ruihong Zhang, whom I have named the California 4th District's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year for Yolo County, in recognition of her leadership in strengthening our community's commitment to a sustainable future.

Born in Inner Mongolia, China, Dr. Zhang graduated from the Inner Mongolia Engineering College of China in 1983 with a Bachelor of Science. She then went on to pursue her Master of Science in 1986 at the Northeast Agricultural University of China. After obtaining her degrees, she moved to the United States of America to pursue her Ph.D. in Agricultural Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). She then served as a Postdoctoral Research associate at UIUC and as an Assistant Professor at Iowa State University. She moved to Davis, California in 1995 and joined the University of California, Davis, faculty in 1995.

Dr. Zhang has helped transform the ecological health of Yolo County through her research. She led the charge to develop the UC Davis Renewable Energy Anaerobic Digester (READ), which converts 20 to 50 tons of waste into renewable energy and biofertilizers every day, diverting 20,000 tons of waste from local landfills each year. This technology has been widely recognized across the Bio-Agricultural sector for addressing critical environmental and economic challenges. READ not only protects our climate by disposing of waste sustainably, but it also benefits our economy by providing cheap electricity, fuel, and fertilizer. The READ facility received the American Biogas Council's Biogas Project of the Year Award in 2015.

Dr. Zhang is dedicated to educating all, especially those who run our government. She has provided policy briefings at both the California State Capitol and the U.S. Capitol on sustainable waste management. Her work has contributed to the passage of meaningful legislation like the Global Warming Solutions Act, the Low Carbon Fuel Standard, and the Short-Lived Climate Pollutant legislation.

Her work across the Agricultural, Environmental, and Ecological sectors has been recognized by countless organizations and groups. Her work was listed as one of the "100 most influential contributions" during the UC Davis Centennial. She was also recognized as a Phenomenal Faculty member by UC Davis in 2014, as an Engineer Innovator by UC Davis's College of Engineering in 2012, and she received the New Holland Young Researcher Award in 2023. She has also been honored with a Distinguished Career Award from the Association of Chinese Agricultural

Biological and Food Engineers, an Achievement Award from California Bioresources Alliance, and CleanTech Innovator of the Year award from Sacramento Regional Technology Alliance.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Ruihong Zhang, has spearheaded research that has diverted thousands of tons of waste from California landfills while transforming how we understand our environment. Her contributions have made Yolo County and the United States a better place to live. For these reasons and more, it is fitting and proper that we recognize her today as Yolo County's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year.

RECOGNIZING COACH LORI FORD

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Lori Ford, who has spent the last 36 years as a dedicated ski coach, during which time she has left a profound and lasting impact on students and young athletes in New Hampshire and Vermont.

Lori began her coaching journey in 1990 at Okemo Mountain in Vermont, where she worked as a coach and instructor for 13 years. In 2003, she joined the coaching staff at the Holderness School, which partners with the Franconia Ski Club, and quickly established herself as a widely respected mentor to young athletes and a reliable colleague to her peers. After 23 years, she remains a dedicated coach at Holderness School, doing the honorable work of developing young minds and helping students discover their passions, both on the slopes and beyond.

Lori's passion for skiing and coaching runs through her blood. Before she became a coach, she was a competitive ski racer for Middlebury College, where she excelled. She also shares her passions with her family. Her husband, Duane, has also dedicated his career to guiding the next generation, working as a teacher and coach at Holderness School. Her daughter, Julia Ford, shares her mother's love for skiing and proudly represented the United States on the Olympic Ski Team at the 2014 Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.

Those who know Lori best laud her for having an unparalleled commitment to helping young athletes become better people, with a love for skiing that is exceeded only by her desire to help young people grow and develop. The Holderness School, Franconia Ski Club, and the states of Vermont and New Hampshire all owe Lori a debt of gratitude. On behalf of the constituents of New Hampshire's 1st Congressional District, I thank Lori for her incredible work to support young Granite Staters as they pursue their dreams. I wish her all the best in her continued coaching and in all her future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was not present for Roll Call votes on April 27,

2026. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 138, and YEA on Roll Call No. 139.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SORENSEN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. SORENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I missed three votes on April 27, 2026 due to travel issues. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 138, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, IRS Whistleblower Program Improvement Act; and a YEA on Roll Call No. 139, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, Clergy Act.

RECOGNIZING CAROL GROSSHANS

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my friend, Mrs. Carol Grosshans, for her remarkable 45 years of service in education, including her exceptional devotion and leadership over the past decade at Foundation Academy in Winter Garden, Florida.

Carol's commitment to education is reflected in her extensive academic achievements. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with a specialty in Learning Disorders from Dickinson State in 1997. She completed coursework in Educational from Capella University in 2003, obtained a Master's degree in K–12 Studies in Education from Capella University in 2015, and most recently received a Certificate in Biblical Counseling from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 2022.

Carol began her distinguished career in 1980 as a Behavior Disorders Teacher for grades K–8 at Lucy Wortham James Elementary School in St. James, Missouri. Over the years, she has served in numerous roles, including teacher, principal, Director of Mom's Morning Out, and literacy instructor for K–12 students. She also served as Vice President

of Education for Junior Achievement from October 2014 to January 2016.

In January 2016, Carol joined Foundation Academy as Vice President of Education and most recently served as Interim President. Her leadership has had a lasting impact on students, faculty, and the community.

Carol and her husband, Tim Grosshans, are active members of First Baptist Church of Winter Garden, where Tim faithfully served as pastor for nearly 17 years before his recent retirement. Together, they now look forward to enjoying this new season of life.

I join her family, friends, and the Foundation Academy community in celebrating her well-deserved retirement and in thanking her for a lifetime of faithful service to students and education.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AUGUST PFLUGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, a delayed commercial flight prevented my timely arrival in Washington, D.C.

As a result, I was unable to be present for the scheduled votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 138, and YEA on Roll Call No. 139.

HONORING LUIS SANTANA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Luis Santana, whom I have named the California 4th District's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year for Lake County in recognition of his leadership in strengthening our community's commitment to a sustainable future.

Born in Deer Park, California, Mr. Santana graduated from California State University, Sacramento, with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and a minor in Geology. He then went on to achieve a Graduate Certificate in Fisheries Management from Oregon State University and a Grant Writing Certifi-

cate from San Diego State University. He served as a Scientific Aid for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, a Biological Science Technician for the U.S. Forest Service, and then a Restoration Specialist with the Yurok Tribe. After working for four years as a Fisheries Biologist, he has made the Fish and Wildlife Director of Robinson Rancheria Donoxa Fish and Wildlife Department in 2025.

In this role, Mr. Santana has been able to secure millions of dollars of funding and thousands of hours in human resources to ensure that Lake County remains sustainable and healthy. He has secured grants and completed projects that will help ensure the land in Lake County remains clean, accessible, and safe for future generations. To protect the lands of Robinson Rancheria, he integrates traditional ecological knowledge with modern scientific approaches to develop effective community-centered conservation strategies. He ensures projects go smoothly by working closely with tribal partners, property owners, government agencies, and academic institutions to protect vulnerable species and habitats.

Mr. Santana is dedicated to mentoring and engaging with the community. One of his primary goals as the Wildlife Director of Robinson Rancheria Donoxa Fish and Wildlife Department is to ensure that future generations are better custodians of our land. He works to create real opportunities for young people to engage with and participate in hands-on environmental work.

Mr. Santana's dedication to Lake County is evident to everyone in his community. He was recognized as the Biologist of the Year from the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society in 2025. He also served as the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Lake County Fish and Wildlife Advisory Committee, and he is a member of the American Fisheries Society, the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the California Deer Association, Trout Unlimited, California Waterfowl Association, and Ducks Unlimited. Mr. Santana is married to Thonyoon Chao and who runs the Chao Santana Farm in Upper Lake, California. They are blessed with two children named Lucas Chao Santana and Eleanor Chao Santana.

Mr. Speaker, Luis Santana, has been recognized across the Lake County community for his work preserving the wildlife, land, and culture across the lands of the Robinson Rancheria. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.