

years in a row, and has a decade of experience teaching apprentices. Chad understands firsthand the difference a great teacher can make. He overcame his own early difficulties as a student with the encouragement of an empathetic educator, and he shows that same patience with every young person who walks into his lab, including English language learners and students with individualized education programs.

His results speak for themselves. In 2025, his program's all-girls welding team captured the overall state championship, and in 2026, a Central Campus student won the Missouri Welding Institute national competition against top trade schools from across the country. Through partnerships with John Deere Des Moines Works and Plumbers and Steam fitters Local 33, his students are gaining direct pathways into rewarding careers.

On September 29, Chad was surprised with the news that he had been selected as one of just 25 skilled trades teachers nationwide, out of more than 550 applicants from 49 states, to receive the 2026 Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence. He is one of two Iowa teachers honored this year. The full \$75,000 prize will go toward strengthening the Central Campus skilled trades program and expanding opportunities for young Iowans.

Mr. Speaker, educators like Chad Donahue are helping build the next generation of American craftsmanship. His dedication to his students, commitment to excellence. And passion for the skilled trades embodies the very best of Iowa. I congratulate Chad on this well-deserved national recognition and thank him for the lasting impact he continues to make on our students, workforce, and community.

CELEBRATING THE HONORABLE
BETSY LAMBETH

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished service of the Honorable Betsy Figer Lambeth, whose dedication to justice and the people of Williamson County has left a lasting impact on Central Texas.

A fifth-generation Texan, Judge Lambeth earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Texas at Austin and her law degree from Texas Tech University School of Law. After beginning her legal career in Midland, she moved to Williamson County in 1987, where she built a respected practice in civil, family, juvenile, and child welfare law before opening her own firm in 1997.

In 2012, Judge Lambeth made history as the first woman elected district judge in Williamson County. Since taking the bench in 2013, she has served with fairness, integrity, and compassion. Her fellow judges elected her Local Administrative Judge of the Williamson County District Courts in 2015, recognizing her exceptional leadership.

Her dedication to public service extends beyond the bench through her longstanding involvement with organizations that strengthen the Williamson County community. She has served for many years on the Board of Direc-

tors of R.O.C.K. Ride On Center for Kids, an organization that enriches the lives of children and adults with disabilities through equine-assisted services. She has also supported local schools, civic organizations, and numerous community initiatives, demonstrating her enduring commitment to serving others both inside and outside the courtroom.

Mr. Speaker, Judge Betsy Lambeth's career reflects a steadfast commitment to justice, leadership, and public service. It is my honor to recognize her outstanding accomplishments and thank her for her years of faithful service to the people of Central Texas.

HONORING DOUG MCCONNELL

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Doug McConnell for his advocacy for parks, open space, and environmental causes. Jack London Park Partners is honoring Doug McConnell's legacy at their annual Gala, which raises funds to provide education, preservation, conservation, recreation, and community access.

Doug McConnell devoted his career to inspiring appreciation for the natural, cultural, and historic resources of California and the American West. Through award-winning television programs, he introduced millions of viewers to parks, trails, public lands, small communities, and environmental stewardship efforts.

Doug was a television journalist, producer, and host specializing in environmental and community storytelling. He served as the host and senior editor of the local program Bay Area Backroads on KRON-TV, one of the longest running regional television programs in the United States. He was also the creator, producer, and host of OpenRoad with Doug McConnell. In addition to his work on television programs, Doug was the co-founder and Managing Partner of Convergence Media Productions, a San Francisco Baykeeper Advisory Board member, an Alaska Conservation Foundation board member and a founder of the Alaska Public Forum.

Doug McConnell's work fostered public awareness, conservation advocacy, outdoor recreation, and civic engagement throughout Northern California and beyond. His contributions to environmental education and public service were recognized through numerous honors, including multiple Emmy Awards, the Harold Gilliam Award for environmental reporting, designation as an Honorary Ranger by California State Parks and the National Park Service, volunteer of the Year by the San Francisco Bay Trail Project, and Humanitarian of the Year by the Marin Humane Society.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Doug McConnell for his legacy of exceptional service to our local parks, environment, and community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

REMEMBERING XAVIEN HARRISON

HON. DONALD G. DAVIS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Nashville Town Councilman and Pastor Xavien Harrison, who passed away on August 11, 2026. He was 53 years old. I join the Nash County community in mourning his passing and in honoring a life devoted to service, faith, and community.

Xavien was a devoted public servant, pastor, and advocate for young people who believed deeply in the power of community. A graduate of Shaw University, he brought a wide range of experience to his ministry and his public service, including backgrounds in law enforcement and middle school education. As a youth pastor, he invested in the next generation, helping young people see their full potential. He served as a board member for the Down East Partnership for Children in Rocky Mount, helping ensure children have the opportunities they need to learn and succeed. He also volunteered as an All Pro Dads facilitator and supported the Nash Central Middle School Parent Teacher Organization.

He brought that same spirit of service to the Nashville Town Council, where he was first elected in 2023, and to his role as pastor at Philadelphia Missionary Baptist Church. Xavien worked to build partnerships and authentic relationships that made his community stronger. Colleagues and friends remember him for his honesty, encouragement, and genuine commitment to building meaningful relationships.

His compassion and commitment to Nashville left a lasting mark on eastern North Carolina. Xavien's legacy lives on in the young people he mentored, the neighbors he served, and the community he worked tirelessly to strengthen.

Mr. Speaker, we pray for Jacquetta, his family, the Philadelphia Missionary Baptist Church, and the people of Nashville. We stand with them during this difficult time. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Xavien Harrison.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
KATHY DEER

HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 21 years of service that Kathy Deer has given to the City of Pearl. Serving as the Executive Director of the Pearl Chamber of Commerce, she has shown diligence in creating a business-friendly environment in Pearl, overseen new business ribbon cuttings, celebrated local first responders, and supported the City of Pearl in countless other ways.

At the end of 2026, Kathy will retire from the Pearl Chamber of Commerce. Kathy has given Pearl so much of her time and leadership as she has worked to build a vibrant business community. Kathy's dedication will positively impact the City of Pearl and the surrounding

area for many years to come. I am thankful for the opportunity to recognize and honor Kathy Deer's unwavering commitment to the City of Pearl for the last 21 years, and I wish her the best in retirement.

HONORING DEIRDRE M. JACOBS

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Deirdre M. Jacobs. Assistant City Manager for the City of Riviera Beach, on earning the prestigious designation of International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Credentialed Manager (CM).

This historic achievement makes Deirdre the first municipal executive serving the City of Riviera Beach to earn the ICMA—CM designation and the only currently active Black woman serving as an ICMA Credentialed Manager in Palm Beach County. It is the latest milestone in a distinguished career spanning nearly four decades of municipal public service.

Deirdre is a graduate of Florida A&M University, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Public Management, and Florida State University, where she earned a Master of Public Administration. Her career in public service began with internships in the Riviera Beach City Manager's Office and the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners' Human Resources Department. In 1989, she formally began her municipal career as a Budget Analyst with the City of Tallahassee.

Deirdre later joined the City of West Palm Beach, where she rose through the ranks to become a Division Program Manager in Community Development. I had the privilege of working directly with her when she served as a Special Assistant to the Mayor during my tenure as Mayor of West Palm Beach.

I am especially proud of the work we did together to uplift families in Coleman Park, a historically under-resourced neighborhood. Our efforts included building new homes, rehabilitating existing homes' improving the community center, supporting seniors, and strengthening neighborhood services and resources. Deirdre brought dedication, compassion, and a deep commitment to improving the quality of life for the families we served.

Deirdre has brought the same commitment to public service to the City of Riviera Beach, where she was unanimously appointed Interim City Manager in 2019. During a pivotal leadership transition, she helped guide the City through a significant cybersecurity attack, maintained essential municipal services, recruited professional staff for key leadership positions, strengthened City operations, and advanced important infrastructure investments.

Today, she continues to serve Riviera Beach as Assistant City Manager, bringing decades of experience, professionalism, and a deep commitment to effective and responsive local government. Her designation as an ICMA Credentialed Manager reflects not only her expertise, but also her sustained dedication to the highest standards of public service. Her career is a testament to the impact of prin-

cipled leadership and a powerful example for the next generation of public servants.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Deirdre Jacobs on this historic achievement and recognizing her decades of distinguished public service. Deirdre's career reflects a lifetime commitment to professional local government and the communities we serve. Deirdre is not only a talented and dedicated public servant, but also someone who genuinely cares about people and works tirelessly to make their lives better.

I am proud to recognize her contributions to our community and call her a friend.

HONORING SOUTH OAK CLIFF HIGH SCHOOL ON ACHIEVING AN A RATING BY THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

HON. JASMINE CROCKETT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of the students, faculty, staff, families, and entire community of South Oak Cliff High School in Dallas, Texas, on achieving an A rating from the Texas Education Agency.

This historic achievement reflects years of hard work, perseverance, and a commitment to academic excellence. In 2026, South Oak Cliff earned an A rating with a score of 91 out of 100—a remarkable milestone for a school with such a proud history and deep roots in the Oak Cliff community.

What makes this achievement especially remarkable is that South Oak Cliff has excelled both in the classroom and on the football field. The Golden Bears have won three state championships and made five consecutive UIL 5A State Championship appearances. They now stand among the schools that have demonstrated excellence both academically and athletically, making this a truly historic moment for South Oak Cliff and Dallas ISD.

This success reflects the dedication of generations of students, educators, coaches, families, and community leaders, as well as the leadership of Principal Dr. Willie F. Johnson.

For generations, South Oak Cliff High School has been a cornerstone of the Oak Cliff community. Today, the Golden Bears are continuing that legacy by showing that excellence can be achieved both on the field and in the classroom.

I congratulate the students, faculty, staff, families, coaches, and entire South Oak Cliff community on this historic A rating. I am proud to recognize the Golden Bears for this extraordinary achievement.

HONORING THE ALFRED MOORE CHAPTER, NATIONAL SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Alfred Moore Chapter of the Na-

tional Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) for its generous gift of an America 250 Revolutionary War Patriots' Marker to Moore County.

On October 1, 2026, members of the Alfred Moore Chapter, descendants of Revolutionary War patriots, community leaders, and citizens will gather at the Moore County Courthouse in Carthage to dedicate this permanent tribute to the men and women whose courage, sacrifice, and service helped secure the independence of our great Nation.

It is particularly fitting this tribute to our revolutionary generation should stand in a county bearing the name of one of North Carolina's own revolutionary patriots. Both Moore County and the Alfred Moore Chapter, NSDAR, were named in honor of Alfred Moore, a Revolutionary War patriot and distinguished statesman.

Moore served as an officer in the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War and later devoted himself to public service, ultimately serving as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from 1800 to 1804. His legacy of patriotism and service provides a meaningful connection between this community and the revolutionary generation honored by this marker.

For more than a century, the Alfred Moore Chapter, NSDAR, has worked to preserve our history, educate future generations, promote patriotism, and serve the people of its community. This marker continues the tradition and establishes a permanent legacy for the 250th anniversary of our country in Moore County.

I am especially proud to recognize the Alfred Moore Chapter for ensuring the legacy of our revolutionary patriots is preserved here in Moore County for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today celebrating the Alfred Moore Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

HONORING THE LATE JEANET GRAYSON

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I rise today to recognize the late Mrs. Jeanet Grayson, a beloved mother, grandmother, sister, daughter, friend, and devoted member of Bethel Baptist Church.

I include in the RECORD the following proclamation:

Whereas, Mrs. Jeanet Grayson was the rock and foundation of her large and loving family of 17 children, 68 grandchildren, 63 great-grandchildren, 10 great-great-grandchildren, 2 brothers, 2 nephews, 2 nieces, 2 great nephews, 1 great niece, 2 godchildren, 3 adopted daughters, 7 sisters-in-law, and 6 brothers-in-law; and

Whereas, Mrs. Grayson was entrusted with the lives of hundreds of school children and took great responsibility in caring for them as a bus driver and food service provider with Miami Dade County Public Schools, and as a bus driver and student attendant at Whole Word Christian Academy; and

Whereas, Mrs. Grayson was a founder of The Road Runners, an organization of Southwest Transportation; and

Whereas, Mrs. Grayson was a faithful member of Bethel Baptist Church, where she