sang in the choir and was a driver for the Evangelism Ministry; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Frederica S. Wilson, a Member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, commend the late Mrs. Jeanet Grayson for her dedication to her family and friends and her church and for her commitment to our community.

HONORING SOMERSET HILLS EDUCATION FOUNDATION'S 30-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 30th anniversary of Somerset Hills Education Foundation. For 30 years, the foundation has dutifully pursued its vision to empower every student in the Somerset Hills School District to excel academically, develop strong character, and embrace lifelong learning.

Established in 1986, this independent nonprofit has consistently dedicated itself to supporting the next generation. Through a wide range of academics professional development, and community partnership programs, they inspire students to "stand on their toes and reach for the stars."

As we commemorate this remarkable milestone, we express our sincere gratitude for Somerset Hills Education Foundation's three decades of service to Somerset Hills School District and the State of New Jersey. I wish them continued success in the years to come.

HONORING MIGUEL A. OTERO

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear, long-time friend and Deputy Chief of Staff, Miguel A. Otero. His decades-long dedication to public service has created a long-lasting impact on our community and well beyond Florida's 26th District.

Born in New York City, New York, in 1962 to parents Mr. Eliseo Marrero Otero and Dr. Dulce Amada Otero, Miguel Otero's family moved to Miami, Florida in the late 1960s. Miguel and his sister, Dolores, grew up being taught the value of hands-on, hard work, with Miguel often accompanying his father on project, performing manual labor like painting and building. In the summer, the family would go on road trHs across the country, imbuing Miguel with a deep sense of appreciation for the beauty of America and its history.

Miguel later applied these principles to his studies, earning a bachelor's of business administration at Florida International University while simultaneously working at Luria's department store. It was there that he met his loving wife of 36 years, Sheila. In 1993, Miguel officially began his long civil service career working for Alex Villalobos in the Florida House of Representatives and the Florida Senate, working diligently as his Chief Legislative Assistant as well as his Chief of Staff.

Since his days in the Florida legislature, Miguel has consistently demonstrated his steadfast commitment to safeguarding and assisting the people of South Florida. In fact, Miguel is a proud 1996 graduate of the Miami-Dade County Citizens' Police Academy, a 2007 graduate of the U.S. Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigations Miami Division Citizens' Academy, and a 2019 graduate of the Doral Police Department's Citizens' Police Academy. Since joining my office in 2003, he has continually invested in and maintained foundational relationships in our community with consular officers, local and State-elected officials, as well as law enforcement and first responders throughout the 26th District of Florida; work critical to my effort to represent and serve my constituents.

Miguel's ethos has always been one of service. He continually looks for ways he can help others, whether that means assisting a constituent with an immigration issue, meeting with community leaders to understand their needs and concerns, reaching for something off a high shelf for a stranger at the grocery store, or caring for family members during times of illness.

As one of my trusted advisors, I can always count on Miguel to remember every detail, and he has such a great memory. He is a principled person, and his character is a direct reflection of his beliefs. In his many years of service, he has never needed nor sought the spotlight, and his integrity lies in his desire to do the right thing for the sake of doing so.

Mr. Speaker, Miguel's commitment to his community is demonstrative of the very best this country has to offer. A tireless civil servant who uses his skills to advocate for his community, a loving husband to Sheila, and devoted father to their daughter Victoria, and a man who is relentless in his desire to serve. I am honored to know him, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this outstanding individual.

HONORING SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL, BISHOP ROBERT GRIFFIN, AND BISHOP DURRELL WATKINS FOR THEIR HISTORIC MILESTONES

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Sunshine Cathedral on its 55th anniversary and honor Bishop Durrell Watkins and Bishop Robert Griffin for 20 years of faithful service to our community. Sunshine Cathedral has served as a beacon of hope, inclusion, unconditional love, and spiritual grounding in South Florida for 55 years, cultivating a vibrant, welcoming community where all individuals are celebrated.

Founded on the principles of social justice, compassion, and progressive faith, Sunshine Cathedral has continuously opened its doors to all people—standing strong as a sanctuary of refuge, empowerment, and equality.

But Sunshine Cathedral's success would not be possible without steady hands. Bishop Durrell Watkins and Bishop Robert Griffin have faithfully served Sunshine Cathedral for two decades, offering exemplary pastoral care, visionary leadership, and unwavering dedication to the congregation and the broader community. Through their 20 years of leadership in Broward County, Bishop Watkins and Bishop Griffin have championed humanitarian causes, advanced civil rights, nurtured spiritual growth, and strengthened South Florida through impactful community outreach.

The 55th anniversary of Sunshine Cathedral and the 20th anniversary of Bishop Watkins' and Bishop Griffin's Sunshine Cathedral ministry mark historic milestones of transformative service, enduring resilience, and compassionate spiritual leadership. It is my honor to recognize them for these accomplishments and extend my deepest gratitude and congratulations to Bishop Watkins and Bishop Griffin for achieving this milestone.

HONORING PEARSON'S CANDY COMPANY IN SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the employees and many fans of Pearson's Candy Company, the 117-year old candy producer which has been making its iconic Nut Goodie and Salted Nut Roll candies at its manufacturing facility in Saint Paul since 1957. Last month, Pearson's announced that it will be closing its West Seventh Street Saint Paul factory at the end of September, eliminating approximately 80 jobs.

Founded in 1909 by P. Edward Pearson and his brothers, Pearson's Candy Company introduced its famous Nut Goodie in 1912. Featuring maple nougat, roasted peanuts, and a milk-chocolate coating, the Nut Goodie was a hit and has been enjoyed for generations. In 1933, during the depths of the Great Depression, Pearson's debuted the Salted Nut Roll. Its vanilla nougat center, caramel layer, and salted peanut coating gave people something sweet yet filling for only 5 cents. In 1957, production moved to the current location on West Seventh Street in Saint Paul, where the beloved treats have been produced ever since.

Sadly, Pearson's Candy Company has now announced that its Saint Paul factory will end production and close its doors at the end of September, leaving about 80 employees without their jobs. The layoffs will affect positions across production, maintenance, quality control, shipping, and management. Jobs being eliminated include candy makers, packers, maintenance mechanics, boiler operators, machine operators, quality control technicians, HVAC technicians, shipping and receiving clerks, production managers, and the IT manager. While Pearson's parent company, Promise Confections, has stated that production of these iconic products will continue elsewhere, the closure marks the end of more than a century of candy manufacturing in Minnesota and will leave about 80 Saint Paul workers without jobs.

In my role as a United States Representative, I have often purchased Pearson's candies to share at special events, including with visitors, ambassadors, and dignitaries from around the world. I have lost count of how many times someone has tried one and immediately asked for another—a small testament to the enduring appeal of this Minnesota-made treat.