

On September 26, 1774, John Chapman was born in Leominster, Massachusetts. Taught by his father from a young age, Chapman became an orchardist and nurseryman.

Since frontier law allowed anyone to lay claim to land through the development of a permanent homestead, Chapman traveled over 100,000 square miles. All the while, he planted apple seeds as he walked.

At the time of his death on March 11, 1845, John Chapman owned over 1,200 acres of land from Massachusetts all the way to Illinois.

Every year since 1993, thousands of people have gathered in Leominster to celebrate the life and work of John Chapman.

Through live music, and of course, apple crisp, the festival aims to inspire and educate the public about Johnny Appleseed's important ties to Central Massachusetts. And just as importantly, it offers a chance for our community to come together and celebrate our shared heritage.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all the communities in Central Massachusetts, I'd like to offer a sincere "thank you" to the hardworking volunteers and organizers—who make this event such a success every year. I'd especially like to thank Leominster City Councilor Rick Marchand, who has organized the event for the last 20 years.

Johnny Appleseed is a treasured national figure that we in Central Massachusetts are proud to share. I commend the Johnny Appleseed Festival on its 25th anniversary and am proud of all they do to make this such a beloved annual event.

HONORING WARDEN NICOLE  
KOZICKI

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2018*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with the Honorable MARK DESAULNIER, JERRY MCNERNEY, and ERIC SWALWELL to honor Nicole Kozicki upon her retirement as a Wildlife Officer with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Warden Kozicki was born and raised in Oakland, California and graduated from Skyline High School in 1986. Post-graduation Warden Kozicki attended the California Fish and Game Academy. She was the youngest cadet to graduate and one of only thirteen women in the Class of 1989. Shortly after graduation, Warden Kozicki was recruited by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Warden Kozicki has been steadfast in her work to protect California's wildlife over the past 29 years. She led an investigation of the illegal development practices, which threatened two endangered species. Warden Kozicki lent her expertise by testifying during the trial and the developers were fined \$1 million for destroying endangered species habitat, among other violations. Her tireless efforts have resulted in the preservation of hundreds of acres of land and millions of dollars in fines. Warden Kozicki also collaborated with the Fish and Wildlife Committee to secure over \$1 million from the Annual Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Propagation Grant to for community projects that benefit fish and wildlife in our community.

Warden Kozicki has been recognized for her incredible work on multiple occasions. In 2017, she received both the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Officer of the Year Award and the Pogue-Elms Wildlife Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, the latter being the highest honor given by the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Warden Kozicki was named the Officer of the Year by Safari Club International in 2016.

Mr. Speaker, Nicole Kozicki has dedicated her career to preserving and protecting California's precious fish and wildlife. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

HONORING DR. MICHAEL A.  
BASTON

**HON. NITA M. LOWEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2018*

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Michael A. Baston on his inauguration as Seventh President of Rockland Community College (RCC) in Suffern, N.Y. on September 13, 2018.

Dr. Baston began his career as a public interest lawyer, representing educational and social justice organizations and this work led him to pursue a career in academia. He joined RCC from LaGuardia Community College in Queens, part of the City University of New York, where he held several key leadership positions, including Vice President for Student Affairs and Associate Provost. Known for his work in integrating student success initiatives to advance college completion through guided pathways, Dr. Baston also helped grow LaGuardia's grant funding with a special focus on diverse and underserved student populations.

During his distinguished career, Dr. Baston's work has been featured in the Chronicle of Higher Education, Atlantic, Diverse Education, Community College Times, Education Advisory Board, MSNBC, and Handbook for Student Affairs in Community Colleges. Dr. Baston was selected as a member of the inaugural class of Aspen Institute Presidential Fellows for Community College Excellence where he explored systemic issues impacting the educational access pipeline and student success.

He holds a BA from Iona College, a JD from Brooklyn Law School, and an EdD from St. John Fisher College. Named by Diverse Issues in Higher Education magazine among the most Notable Education Leaders of 2017, Dr. Baston is an extraordinary man whose dedication and determination have inspired all who know him.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Baston's numerous accomplishments have left a lasting impact on the communities he has served and he has pledged to broaden the scope, reach and influence of RCC in the years ahead. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the extraordinary leadership and vision of Dr. Michael Baston and to welcome him to Rockland Community College.

SUPPORTING THE REAL ID ACT  
MODIFICATION FOR FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES

**HON. AUMUA AMATA COLEMAN  
RADEWAGEN**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2018*

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for the REAL ID Act Modification for Freely Associated States Act (H.R. 3998).

When Congress passed the REAL ID Act in 2005, no reference was made to the Freely Associated States (FAS) of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau—trusted U.S. allies and friends. Instead, in a true technical glitch, the law defined "State" to include the "Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands," a legal entity that has once included the FAS but has not existed since 1994. This anachronistic reference to the Trust Territories of the Pacific clearly demonstrates congressional intent to include FAS citizens in the law.

As a consequence of the law's wording, FAS citizens today are denied anything more than a temporary ID or driver's license valid only for one year. This makes it extraordinarily difficult for them to maintain employment and otherwise contribute meaningfully to society.

This problem must be resolved and our House Dean, Congressman DON YOUNG of Alaska and my good friend Congresswoman TULSI GABBARD of Hawaii have devised the right Bi-Partisan solution in crafting H.R. 3998.

The Republic of the Marshall Islands, Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia are some of the U.S.'s closest allies and great friends and neighbors in the Pacific to American Samoa. They vote with us consistently and reliably at the United Nations. They send their sons and daughters to fight with us, side by side, in the United States Armed Forces.

The RMI in particular, which was once my home, is also home to The Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Test Site on Kwajalein Atoll, which I recently visited on a CODEL, and all three nations play a key critical role in U.S. national defense and strategy in a threatening part of the world, close to North Korea and China.

Congress needs to make this technical correction and enable those from the Freely Associated States to fully contribute to the American communities in which they live. I urge my colleagues to please vote yes on final passage of H.R. 3998.

HONORING THE COUNTRY MUSIC  
ASSOCIATION ON ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JIM COOPER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2018*

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Country Music Association for its 60 years of providing unity, purpose, and leadership within the country music industry.

The Country Music Association was the first trade association formed to promote a genre of music. Since its founding in 1958, it has

grown from its original 160 members and today represents more than 7,400 industry professionals. The Country Music Association preserves the industry's rich heritage and time-honored traditions. This organization's tireless advocacy has brought the appreciation for and the excellence of country music to new heights.

Country Music is the story of America, and the Country Music Association shares this story around the world. The Country Music Association celebrates life by connecting those near and far and making global connections through the gift of music. Country music creates a place for everyone by evoking celebration and pain, joy and sorrow, love and loss.

The country music industry is as charitable as it is talented. The Country Music Association Foundation, the organization's charitable group, has invested more than \$21 million in improving and sustaining music education programs across the nation. Thanks to these efforts, students from everywhere are gaining skills and knowledge to help them succeed in all facets of their lives.

The power of country music is boundless, and the Country Music Association ensures that its genius is reaching every corner of this world and will continue to do so for generations to come.

I am honored to represent the home of the Country Music Association in Nashville, Tennessee, and am proud to recognize its 60th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING BENJAMIN  
BRUNSVOLD, ANDREW DROBECK,  
AND BLAKE MEYERS

### HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2018*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, during National Blood Cancer Awareness Month, to honor firefighters Benjamin Brunsvold, Andrew Drobeck, and Blake Meyers who helped the Missoula Fire Department team finish first in the Scott Firefighter Stairclimb.

The 2018 Scott Firefighter Stairclimb brought together 2,000 firefighters from over 330 fire departments to compete. The stairclimb, which raised a record \$2.61 million in 2018, benefits the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) and its efforts in the fight against different types of blood cancer.

The Scott Firefighter Stairclimb is the world's largest on-air stair climb competition. Held at the Columbia Center in Seattle, the competition features firefighters in full gear climbing 69 flights of stairs, or 788 feet.

I congratulate Brunsvold, Drobeck, and Meyers who were the three top finishers for the Missoula Fire Department, helping it claim top team honors for the seventh consecutive year. Brunsvold finished third in the individual competition; Drobeck, a six-time individual winner, placed fourth; and Meyers finished 26th.

I also commend the 77 Montana firefighters from 26 departments who took part in the 2018 challenge. With the support of their com-

munities, they raised more than \$97,500. Since 2009, Montana firefighters have raised more than \$800,000 for LLS.

While I congratulate Montana's outstanding firefighters for their performance, the Scott Firefighter Stairclimb is about raising awareness about blood cancer and raising needed resources for research and patient services.

Josh Charles, a Bozeman firefighter and a Montana Ambassador for the Scott Firefighter Stairclimb, says, "It's rewarding to know that fire departments across Montana have embraced the Scott Stairclimb, honoring the cause and the people affected by cancer who fight every day for normalcy. There's nothing better than when a patient or survivor says, 'Thanks for helping me fight leukemia.'"

Mr. Speaker, for their excellence in training and performance, service in protecting our communities, and dedication that exceeds the call of duty, I recognize Benjamin Brunsvold, Andrew Drobeck, and Blake Meyers for their spirit of Montana.

### HONORING THE LIFE OF RETIRED THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT CIR- CUIT COURT JUDGE HENRY LACKEY

### HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2018*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of retired Third Judicial District Circuit Court Judge Henry Lackey. Judge Lackey passed away on August 17, 2018, at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Calhoun City, Mississippi. Judge Lackey distinguished himself in every facet of his life, devoting himself to family, the community, and to all those who placed their faith in him.

According to an obituary published in the Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal, Judge Lackey was raised in Calhoun City. In 1952, he graduated from Calhoun City High School. Judge Lackey earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration at Mississippi College in 1956. Upon graduation, he operated the family business following his father's death. He also answered the call to serve in the U.S. Army when his National Guard unit was activated from 1961 until 1962.

In 1966, Judge Lackey embarked on a career that would become his path in life—public service. Following graduation from the University of Mississippi School of Law, Judge Lackey was elected to serve as the Calhoun County Prosecuting Attorney. After serving a four-year term, Judge Lackey was appointed to serve as Mississippi's first public defender. In addition to operating a private law practice, Judge Lackey also served as the board attorney for the Calhoun County Supervisors. In 1993, former Mississippi Governor Kirk Fordice appointed Judge Lackey to the Third Circuit Court District, serving Lafayette, Marshall, Tippah, Benton, Chickasaw, Union, and Calhoun Counties. Judge Lackey remained in office for four consecutive terms. Following his final term as a circuit court judge, he served as a senior status judge for seven years.

Judge Lackey earned the trust of his colleagues during his long and distinguished career, serving in numerous leadership roles. According to the Associated Press, Judge Lackey was a former president of the Calhoun County Bar Association and the Third Circuit Bar Association. He was a fellow of the Mississippi Bar Foundation. In 2008, he was selected to receive the Supreme Court's Chief Justice Award. In 2009, Judge Lackey was named Mississippi College's Alumnus of the Year. He previously served as a member of the Mississippi College Board of Trustees.

Mississippi Supreme Court Justice Bill Waller, Jr. praised Judge Lackey for his unwillingness to be swayed by a bribe in an article published by The Oxford Eagle. "He was one of the most outstanding jurists in the history of the state," Justice Waller said. "His courageous acts in the bribery investigation were done without regard to his health and safety, for the preservation of the integrity of the judiciary. He is one of my heroes."

I will forever admire Judge Lackey's honesty and integrity, qualities that made him the outstanding public servant that he was. He was a man who made a true and lasting impact on the field of law and more importantly, on the lives of so many of his fellow citizens.

Judge Lackey is survived by his devoted wife of 60 years, Helen Rose James Lackey; and one son, Kevin Lackey.

### SPECIAL ENVOY TO MONITOR AND COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM ACT OF 2018

SPEECH OF

### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 12, 2018*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I want to add my voice to those of my colleagues who have expressed strong support for this bill, H.R. 1911. It is imperative that the United States leads in the effort to stamp out anti-Semitism both at home and around the world. That's why we need an ambassadorial-level special envoy to monitor and combat anti-Semitism.

In recent years, we've witnessed a disturbing rise in attacks against Jews and Jewish communities all around the world. Americans were deeply shaken last year by the virulent anti-Semitism on display in our own country during the white-supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia. I continue to be alarmed by attacks on Israel and its policies that employ rhetoric historically associated with anti-Semitism and that repeat old patterns of singling out the Jewish State in ways that mimic ancient biases. There must be no place for such rhetoric or activities in our country or anywhere that calls itself a free and democratic society.

I commend Ranking Member ENGEL of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, along with Reps. LOWEY, SCHNEIDER, DEUTCH, and VEASEY, for their hard work with the bill's Republican cosponsors to ensure bipartisan passage of this legislation. I hope it will send a strong message throughout the world that the United States will never waver in its effort to end the scourge of anti-Semitism and defend our ally Israel.