

On July 27, 1846, residents of Providence village gathered to discuss building a meeting house. A vote determined that the meeting house would be governed by the Presbyterians. On October 5, 1846, the First Presbyterian Church of Providence, Pennsylvania was organized. The first church building was built on the corner of Church Avenue and Oak Street, and the first meeting of the congregation took place on April 19, 1847. The house was dedicated on July 25, 1849 with Rev. Joseph Barlow as the first pastor. In 1862, a parsonage was added to the grounds, and a lecture and bible classroom was added to the church building in 1869.

In 1882, the congregation purchased land to build a new house of worship. They sold the parsonage to fund the cost of the new church in 1884, and in 1886, the beautiful stone church was completed and dedicated.

The faithful gathered and worshiped at 2020 North Main Avenue for almost a century. In 1971, the Providence Presbyterian Church merged with the Suburban Presbyterian Church to form the Providence United Presbyterian Church (PUPC). The congregations joined together to bear witness to their faith and serve their community.

The PUPC has been a pillar of the strong and supportive faith community of the City of Scranton for nearly two centuries. When the Concord United Church of Christ closed its doors, the PUPC welcomed its members into their fold. From 2004 to 2008, the PUPC shared worship and gathering spaces with many area churches, such as Marywood University, Covenant Presbyterian Church, the Presbyterian Church of Dunmore, Immanuel Lutheran Church, and Throop United Methodist Church. In 2008, the PUPC dedicated its new church building at 1145 Providence Road in Scranton.

Today, PUPC continues to grow and thrive. The church welcomes the faithful of the City of Scranton to practice their faith, fostering community and fellowship within the congregation.

I am honored to join with the congregation of the Providence United Presbyterian Church to celebrate 175 years of worship and community and the essential role it has played in the growth of Presbyterianism in Scranton. May PUPC continue to be a mainstay in the Scranton faith community and provide a safe and welcoming place to worship for generations to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH  
BIRTHDAY OF ELSA FORTH

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 30, 2021*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Elsa Forth of Taylor, Michigan on her 100th birthday. Her life of courage and strength is worthy of recognition.

Mrs. Forth was born in the city of Belluno, Italy on October 1, 1921, the second of twins, to Andreas and Maria Da Rin. She spent summers in the village of Laggio di Cadore with her sister Antonietta and brother Alvio. She was educated at the Vatican at the sponsorship of Father Albino Luciani—later Pope John Paul I. Her hometown became a battlefield during World War II and Mrs. Forth played a

major role in the operations of the Partisans who fought alongside the allied forces against the fascist Mussolini and Nazi Germany. Her actions branded her a hero to those who know her legacy in Belluno. She left her home after being proposed to by a man with American citizenship and moved to Melvindale, Michigan.

After taking time to learn to speak English, she started working as a waitress at The Venetian Inn in downriver. In good company with the Italian family who owned the bar, they called her their "Italian Hero." She was quick to make friends and was well beloved in her new home. Tragically, she came home one night to a drunken, jealous husband and came face to face with a shotgun. She managed to escape down the stairs of their small apartment but was hit in her face and upper chest. She escaped bullets in Italy only to fall victim to gunshots in America.

Luckily, Mrs. Forth was able to get an experimental plastic surgery and was able to heal quickly. Soon after, she met Raymond Forth and they wed. Together they have one son, Tony "Tone". She was able to find work in a technical industrial role where she remained until her retirement at age 70. When Tony joined the Marines, Mr. and Mrs. Forth moved to a home in Taylor, Michigan. Today, they live together in the renovated family home, along with Tony's wife, Antonette. Mr. Raymond Forth passed away in 1983 Tony struggles to keep up with his mother who remains full of life, even at age 100.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating Mrs. Elsa Forth on her 100th birthday. Her story is one that inspires all who hear it. I join with her family and friends in extending my best and warmest wishes to her on this special day. I am proud to honor her life, her accomplishments, and her invaluable contributions to our community here at home and abroad.

WISHING KATHY CALDWELL, A  
HAPPY RETIREMENT

**HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 30, 2021*

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and wish a happy retirement to Kathy Caldwell, CEO of Legacy Community Health Centers.

Our Houston community thanks Kathy for her hard work and for her remarkable leadership at Legacy and in our community at large.

Under her leadership, Legacy has expanded exponentially.

What started as a small neighborhood clinic has become a large organization employing thousands of Texans serving Houston diligently.

Our community will miss her.

We are certainly inspired by her work and thank her for what Legacy will continue to do for Houston.

This work has been particularly important for low-income communities and communities of color, including Latinos, which have been disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

We wish her the best on her next steps.

I congratulate her on her retirement and God bless.

RECOGNIZING THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF JOHNSON ESTATE WINERY IN WESTFIELD, NEW YORK

**HON. TOM REED**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 30, 2021*

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the sixtieth anniversary of Johnson Estate Winery in Westfield, New York and congratulate the Johnson family for reaching this tremendous milestone.

Three generations of Johnsons have farmed what is now Johnson Estate Winery. After immigrating to Canada and attending Cornell University, Frederick Johnson purchased a circa-1822 home and farm along the banks of Freelings Creek in Westfield, New York. He planted various fruits like apples, peaches, and concord vineyards, and named the farm Sunnyslope Fruit Farm. He worked as an entomologist with the Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C. and North East, Pennsylvania, met his wife, and raised his family.

His son Frederick Spencer Johnson grew up on the farm, served in World War II as a naval aviator, graduated from Cornell, and raised his family overseas while working for Nelson Rockefeller's various agricultural endeavors. He returned to the farm in 1960, after his father died, and removed the aging fruit orchards before being the first Western New York Farmer to plant French hybrid grapes. His favorite hybrid, Chancellor, is in the winery's famous Founder's Red. In 1961, he opened the Johnson Estate Winery.

Frederick Spencer's children inherited the farm in 1998 and grew the winery with new vineyards, construction of a finished goods warehouse, and the introduction of new wines like fruit, sparkling, and ice wines. In 2010, Frederick Johnson, Jr. became the owner of the farm and winery with his wife, Jennifer. They renovated the century-old tasting room in 2011 and still live in the two-hundred-year-old farmhouse. This year, they opened an outdoor wine and food pairing location, Flight, as a nod to Fred Sr.'s service as a naval aviator and the love of aviation he shared with his son, Fred Jr. Guests enjoy sights and smells of harvest while savoring delicious wine and locally-sourced fruits, curated cheeses, and charcuterie boards.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to recognize the sixtieth anniversary of Johnson Estate Winery in Westfield, New York. Congratulations on this tremendous milestone.

CELEBRATING THE SEVENTH  
BIRTHDAY OF BLAKE BURTON

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 30, 2021*

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents, Blake Burton, on his seventh birthday and to recognize his resilient spirit in the face of unbelievable hardship.

Blake was diagnosed with leukemia at the age of four and has been bravely battling it

ever since. On several occasions, Blake's condition worsened, and his family feared that they might be losing him. After countless surgeries, transfusions, needles, surviving being on a ventilator, kidney dialysis, and three failed stem cell transplants, his fight with leukemia has now come to an end and Blake was recently put into hospice care.

Blake's family describes him a boy with a zest for life who makes an impact on anyone he comes in contact with. Despite a taxing fight against leukemia, he always has the energy to stick up for the underdog—a lesson we can all learn from.

On October 14, Blake will turn seven years old having experienced more challenges than most people will over the course of their entire

lives. We can all learn from Blake's bravery and strength, and I am honored to represent him and his family as part of the 11th Congressional District of Illinois.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Blake on his seventh birthday and in honoring his courage, perseverance, and spirit.