

the company received further attention when a box of Russell Stover chocolates was featured in the Academy Award-winning film *Forrest Gump*, in which the title character quotes his mother as having said, "life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're gonna get." Offering a piece of candy to a stranger sitting next to him on a park bench, *Forrest Gump* declared, "I could eat about a million and a half of these," and viewers around the world agreed with the sentiment.

In 1998, Russell Stover launched a line of sugar free chocolates and quickly became the leading producer of sugar free candies in the United States. In 2002, Russell Stover was recognized for having the best-tasting toffee, chocolate covered cherries, fudge, truffles, nut bars, and sugar-free chocolates when the company was awarded six Gold Taste Awards by the prestigious American Culinary Institute. Wanting to ensure that all people could enjoy their delicacies, Russell Stover launched product lines for consumers with diabetes and those leading low-carb lifestyles in the early 2000s.

In 2014, Lindt & Sprungli—a manufacturer of premium chocolates worldwide—acquired Russell Stover Chocolates and Whitman's Candies. Since then, the company has remained dedicated to its founding principles of quality and craftsmanship, ensuring that each piece of candy is a testament to the Stovers' commitment to excellence.

On behalf of the 118th Congress, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to Russell Stover Chocolates for having reached their centennial anniversary. Hand-crafting the finest chocolates in the heart of America, Russell Stover is an American success story worth celebrating on this historic milestone. Here's to another hundred years of delicious chocolates and sweet memories.

HONORING BUCHANAN MILES

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Buchanan Miles for being named Vacaville Unified School District 2022–2023 Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Miles has been a teacher at Hemlock Elementary School for 21 years. Throughout the duration of his impressive career, Mr. Miles has taught kindergarten and grades fourth through sixth. He spends his free time before and after school lending a helping hand around campus. He is always one of the first teachers to arrive in the morning, and one of the last teachers to leave. Mr. Miles prioritizes and finds joy in connecting and building relationships with students and their families.

Mr. Miles is intent on creating a positive school culture. For Hemlock's Harvest Festival, Mr. Miles hosts a yearly haunted house that is extremely popular with students and families with the proceeds going towards field trips for his students. He also runs Hemlock's student council and assists the students with campaigning and speeches so they can share their vision with the student body. He loves

encouraging and supporting students to run for student government because of his strong belief in the need to empower students. Mr. Miles also places a high priority on building relationships with staff and faculty by organizing the staffs monthly luncheons.

Mr. Miles' commitment to public service extends beyond Hemlock. Before becoming a teacher, Mr. Miles served his country in the Air Force. He continued to serve as a reservist while teaching for the first few years of his tenure with Vacaville Unified School District. He now shares his expertise by coaching the Color Guard for Vacaville High School, as well as three other high schools in the surrounding area. This year, he helped guide Vacaville High School to the bronze medal at the National Color Guard competition.

Mr. Speaker, teachers of Mr. Miles' caliber are an exceptional asset to the students and families they serve. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

CONGRATULATING THE PACE FAMILY AND BROOKHAVEN MONUMENT COMPANY ON 75 YEARS OF SUCCESS

HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th year of distinguished service by a small business in the Third Congressional District of Mississippi—Brookhaven Monument Company. This also marks the 45th year that Mr. Dave Pace and the Pace family have operated the business.

Since 1947, Brookhaven Monument has served families throughout the state with honesty and empathy. Like so many other small businesses in Mississippi, Brookhaven Monument is family owned, creates jobs for its community, and provides exceptional service to its customers. Brookhaven Monument and Dave Pace have been a constant presence in Brookhaven and Southwest Mississippi. I commend them for their years of service and join with my fellow Mississippians in wishing them many more years of success.

RECOGNIZING PURPLE UP DAY AT BOURNE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bourne Intermediate School as the students celebrate Purple Up Day on April 15th during the Month of the Military Child.

April was first named the Month of the Military Child in 1986 by former Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger to recognize military children and the social and emotional challenges they face with frequent moves, starting at new schools, and having their parents deployed. Military families often move every 2 to 3 years, which can greatly impact children.

Combining the colors of all the service branches, Purple Up Day is the day during the month of April to wear purple and show support for the 1.6 million children with a parent serving in the military. This day allows us to celebrate and honor military children and the sacrifice they make for our country. With Joint Base Cape Cod located in the ninth district, many students in our community understand the challenges and sacrifices that come along with having a parent serve in the military.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor military children at Bourne Intermediate School and across our country. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the resilience and strength that military children demonstrate each day as their parents serve our country.

HONORING ANITA KELLY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Anita Kelly who is Vacaville Unified School District 2022–2023 Classified Employee of the Year.

Ms. Kelly has served as a dedicated and compassionate employee at Jepson Middle School counseling department for several years. Throughout her time at Jepson Middle School, Ms. Kelly's range of skills and expertise have been a tremendous asset to students, teachers, and the school. Ms. Kelly's institutional memory and talents are essential to keeping Jepson Middle School running smoothly. She goes above and beyond to assist others and helps teachers remain informed about their students in order to serve the student body and their parents more effectively.

Ms. Kelly is known to welcome new students and parents with a warm and inviting smile. Ms. Kelly's role in translating for Spanish speaking students and parents allow all members of their school community to feel valued and connected.

Ms. Kelly also helps foster youth and students who are without a home to feel more comfortable and supported. Ms. Kelly prioritizes checking in with students and their families regularly, while monitoring their grades and progress to encourage student success.

Last year, Ms. Kelly supported the management of the virtual speech program to ensure that students could successfully access the resource. Even this year, she still maintains information for teachers involved in managing the virtual speech program. Ms. Kelly's ability to effectively manage data provides the school with important information, including attendance and grades. This informs the school's leadership about the work of the students and is crucial to guiding the school's administration on which students may benefit from the school's intervention program. For these reasons, she is an indispensable part of Jepson's counseling department.

Mr. Speaker, employees of Ms. Kelly's caliber are an exceptional asset to the students and families they serve. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

HONORING THE LIFE OF EDGAR T. PICKETT, JR.

HON. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Edgar T. Pickett, Jr. a servant and guardian of our Lakeland community who passed away peacefully with family by his side on April 6th. Edgar served our community for nearly 30 years as an officer with the Lakeland Police Department. He was a trailblazer in many ways, both as one of the Department's first black officers and as a pioneer in the field of forensics.

Edgar began his law enforcement career in 1954 at a time when segregation was still in effect in America. He persevered through many challenges, including when he was shot in the line of duty responding to a call in 1964. After surviving his ordeal, Edgar went on to become one of Polk County's first black detectives. In this new role, Edgar distinguished himself as a remarkable investigator. He taught himself fingerprinting, photography, evidence collection and how to identify bullets from evidence left at crime scenes. He converted his home kitchen into a dark room to develop his film and learned to develop photos professionally with the help of Duane Perkins' photography shop.

Edgar's remarkable skill set earned him a certification in forensic science and he became a fingerprint technician in 1973. He studied at the American Institute of Applied Sciences in Chicago and became a plainclothes detective specializing in fingerprinting. Edgar would go on to develop Lakeland Police Department's first fingerprint filing system and worked with the FBI in 1980 to identify a local suspect threatening to assassinate President Jimmy Carter.

After nearly 30 years, Edgar retired in 1983 and continued consulting for various law enforcement agencies across Florida. In 2019, he returned to Lakeland Police Department to close a 38-year old cold case murder investigation he once worked on as a detective. The Lakeland Police Department named its fingerprinting lab after Edgar in honor of his diligent and nationally-recognized work.

He will be deeply missed by his family, his fellow officers and our community. On behalf of the 18th Congressional District of Florida, I thank Edgar T. Pickett, Jr. for his service and sacrifice. We will be forever grateful.

HONORING BRIAN LALINE

HON. NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brian Laline. Born on Staten Island, New York, married to Carol with three children: Christopher, Peter, and Kelly Anne and five granddaughters Olivia, Madeleine, Elle, Mila, and Katherine. Mr. Laline graduated from New Dorp High School and went on to receive his Bachelors in English at LaSalle University as well as a master's degree in education from Wagner College.

Mr. Laline taught High School English in Philadelphia before coming to the Advance as a reporter in 1972. He served various capacities as copy editor before being named editor in 1992. In 2015, Mr. Laline achieved executive editor at the Staten Island Advance.

Currently, Mr. Laline is an active member of the community, taking on roles such as Chairman of the Board of Directors at the St. George Restoration, Inc. where he received the "Georgie Award." Additionally, he served as Secretary of the Board of Trustees at the Snug Harbor Cultural Center and Botanical Garden. He is also a member of the Board of Directors for the College of Staten Island Foundation and Secretary of the Museum of Maritime Navigation and Communication. Previously he was a participant on several boards and organizations important to the Staten Island community such as the YMCA, Meals on Wheels, and Boy Scouts of America. He was also a founding member of The Italian Cultural Center at Casa Belvedere.

Proving to be an outstanding member of our district, Mr. Laline has been awarded many recognitions for his work both in education and in the community. These include several distinguished service awards from organizations such as The American Red Cross, the Center for Migration Studies, and the Boy Scouts of America. He has been recognized by the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the American Heart Association, the Zoologist Society, and the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. Mr. Laline has also received the Community Resource Award, the Safe Harbor Award from the Society for Children and Families, the College of Staten Island Dolphin Award, the Teddy Award from the Teddy Atlas Foundation, the Richard M. Silberstein Award from Staten Island Mental Health, United Activities Unlimited Community Service Award, the Community Service Award from the Mission of the Immaculate Virgin, and the Community Service award from the Staten Island Board of Realtors.

Mr. Laline has been an exemplary member of the Staten Island community and leads by his example of volunteerism and constant acts of giving back. His lifelong love of education and career in editing has been supplemental to his dedication to volunteering and to these charities. Mr. Laline is the epitome of a New Yorker, constantly giving back to the neighborhood and continuing to champion for the streets that raised him.

I am proud to be honoring Mr. Laline and thanking him for all he has done for Staten Island.

HONORING PAST CHIEF AND CURRENT ASSISTANT CHIEF JON BARRETT

HON. BRANDON WILLIAMS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Past Chief and Current Assistant Chief Jon Barrett on attending his 10,000th alarm with the Cicero Volunteer Fire Department.

Chief Barrett grew up in a house across from Cicero Fire Station No. 1, he officially

joined the Cicero Volunteer Fire Department (CVFD) as a full member on August 1, 1996.

In the 27 years of his membership, Chief Barrett has held the firematic ranks of Captain, 2nd Assistant Chief, 1st Assistant Chief, Deputy Chief, and Chief of Fire. He has served as Vice President and President for the Corporation. Along with interior firefighter duties, he is a New York State Emergency Medical Technician Basic (EMT-B), and a New York State Fire Police Officer. He has served as the Cicero Fire District Building and Grounds Maintenance Employee and the Apparatus Maintenance Employee.

Chief Barrett has received the Onondaga County Volunteer Fireman's Association (OCVFA) Medal of Valor and Red Jacket Award, the Lt. Howard "Howie" Crowell Officer of the Year Award (2004), the Liberty Mutual Insurance Firemark Award, and the Central New York Emergency Medical Services (CNY EMS) Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) of the Year Award. On several occasions he has received the CVFD Top Responder award, Top Ten Responder award, Life Save award, and the Stork Pin for assisting in out-of-hospital births. Chief Barrett also serves as a member of the Firefighters Association of the State of New York (FASNY) on the Training Education Committee.

On December 23, 2022, Chief Barrett attended his 10,000th alarm since the CVFD started electronic alarm record keeping on January 1, 1998. His first alarm in that system was on January 2, 1998. In his nearly 27 years as a member, he has averaged over 373 alarms per year.

I commend Chief Jon Barrett for his dedication to protecting our community and congratulate him on his 10,000th alarm.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL PEO WEEK

HON. ERIN HOUCHIN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National PEO Week, which starts May 21 and ends May 27, 2023.

National PEO Week will celebrate the important contributions of the professional employer organization (PEO) industry, which provides payroll, employee benefits, compliance assistance, and HR services to hundreds of thousands of small and mid-sized businesses that employ more than 4 million people.

PEOs play a critical role in helping businesses survive and thrive, particularly during challenging times. In the dark days of the COVID pandemic, PEOs ensured that their clients stay afloat by securing PPP loans and loan forgiveness, managing employee leave, and applying for available tax credits. In fact, businesses that partner with a PEO were nearly 60 percent less likely to have permanently closed than those that did not use a PEO during the pandemic.

PEOs help small businesses improve productivity and profitability, focus on their core mission, and grow. Through a PEO, the employees of small businesses gain access to important employee benefits such as: 401(k) plans; health, dental, life, and other insurance; dependent care; other benefits they might not