

While at Westminster, he would meet his wife, Kaye, who he would marry in 1958. They would go on to have five children, along with many pets and countless family memories.

Heiman spent much of his early adulthood working with his father and uncles at the Union Lumber Company and Cheim Ranch. Heiman would eventually buy the company from his uncles and continue the family-owned legacy with his son, Harry. Heiman was a hard worker, his 64-year career was a testament to his tireless work ethic, and his deep connection with the community.

Heiman had an endless appetite for life, which included trips around the country and learning to ride a Harley-Davidson. His favorite place to be with family was Jackson Hole, Wyoming; together they would: flyfish, ski, track down bear jams, and enjoy our country's National Parks. After his wife passed away in 2004, it was imperative to carry on that tradition and make every holiday and birthday special. He shared many of these moments with his companion of twenty years, Donna.

Heiman is survived by his children, Heidi, Lorie, Harry, Charlotte, and Alison; twelve beloved grandchildren and one great grandchild. He is also survived by Donna Helms, along with many extended family and friends. His humor, generosity, drive, and joy in life inspired everyone around him. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him. May he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING DENISE SMITH FOR  
RECEIVING THE CARL E. WEHDE  
AWARD

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 2024*

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Denise Smith for receiving the esteemed Carl E. Wehde Award. This award, presented in memory of the late Mayor Carl E. Wehde, acknowledges individuals who embody the spirit of service, leadership, and dedication to improving the quality of life in the greater Crystal Lake area.

As the organization chair for the Downtown Crystal Lake Association, Denise plays a vital role in promoting the city's downtown area. She is also an active volunteer with numerous local charities, including St. Thomas Catholic Church, the Jake Keitner Memorial Blood Drive, the Family Health Partnership Clinic, and Girls on the Run.

Denise's passion for community involvement extends to her coordination of four premier races in the area. Three of these races, the Crystal Lake Aquathon, Crystal Lake Half Marathon, and McHenry County Santa Run, are dedicated to supporting charitable causes. The McHenry County Patriot Run benefits Veterans Path to Hope and the Veterans Assistance Commission.

In addition to her community service, Denise is an adjunct instructor at McHenry County College in the Physical Therapist and Assistant Program. She also owns a business in Crystal Lake, which she established in 2015 with the support of the Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Crystal Lake Association, and the broader community.

Denise's commitment to her community extends to her role as a recently elected rep-

resentative on the Crystal Lake City Council. She is also a graduate of the Leadership Greater McHenry County organization, demonstrating her dedication to the region's well-being.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the community of Crystal Lake and I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging Denise Smith for her selfless service to the Crystal Lake community.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT  
OF CHEF SILVANA SALCIDO  
ESPARZA

**HON. RUBEN GALLEGO**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 2024*

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Chef Silvana Salcido Esparza's retirement and all her accomplishments. Since opening Barrio Café, she has been featured in Sunset Magazine, Esquire Magazine, and Food Network's Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives, and has been a finalist for the James Beard Award several times. Throughout the years, Chef Silvana has shared her expertise, mentoring the next generation of chefs and small business owners. Inducted into the Arizona Culinary Hall of Fame, Chef Silvana has left her indelible mark on the Phoenix food scene.

Chef Silvana is a community leader and civil rights advocate in her own right. She has tirelessly advocated for the rights of all in Arizona and against abusive and discriminatory legislation like SB1070. Chef Silvana cooked and distributed food to those in need during the COVID-19 pandemic. Her leadership and vision have transformed a stretch of 16th Street into 'Calle 16,' a hub for local economic development, flourishing with Mexican art, murals, culture, and food.

Since 2002, Barrio Café has been a Phoenix institution, serving world-renowned Mexican food—'comida chingona'—and promoting Mexican American arts and culture. Chef Silvana's story lives on with her autobiographical book, 'La Hija de la Chingada: Chronicles of a Mexican Chef in the U.S.A.' I am lucky to call Chef Silvana a friend, and I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SCHARMEL  
ROUSSEL

**HON. J. FRENCH HILL**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 2024*

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Scharmél Roussel.

In 2009, Ms. Roussel became a founding member of Arkansas Affiliate of Interfaith Power and Light which fights to protect the Earth and our environment.

In March of 2024, Roussel received the Peace Activist of the Year award from the Arkansas Coalition for Peace and Justice.

Roussel's dedication to environmentalism has earned her several grants, including such from the EPA and the USDA.

Scharmél Roussel is more than deserving of this award, and I thank her for her important

work to help preserve the world's ecosystems through faith.

HONORING PASTOR EUGENE  
ROBERSON ON THE OCCASION OF  
HIS 30TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY

**HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 2024*

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor Pastor Eugene Roberson, an esteemed leader and dear friend in our community as he marks his 30th pastoral anniversary at First Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church in North Chicago. In 1994, First Corinthian named Pastor Roberson as the Shepherd of their congregation, beginning a tremendous period of growth in faith and service to our community. Thirty years on, I am proud to formally recognize his service and dedication to his congregation, a truly remarkable achievement.

Pastor Roberson's faith journey began in his home state of Mississippi, where he was the fourth of ten children born to John and Lula Roberson in Tutwiler. Educated in Clarksdale, Mississippi, Pastor Roberson earned his B.A. in Social Studies from Jackson State University. He entered into the ministry in 1979 where he ascended in service to his faith from Deacon to Assistant Pastor to the late Pastor Peter Goudeaux, Jr., and ultimately becoming his successor.

I have the privilege of knowing Pastor Roberson as a friend, community leader, man of faith and servant of the community. His passion and leadership are consistently a source of inspiration for me and countless others. I am grateful to have joined Pastor Roberson and his congregation on many occasions. During each visit, I feel at home and leave with a renewed feeling of hope and determination.

Pastor Roberson's work extends well beyond the doors of his church. Through his work on the Lake County Commission on Government Reform and Accountability, the Workforce Development Board, and twice as the elected President of the North Shore Baptist Ministers Alliance, he has had great impact lifting up the lives of Lake County residents.

Pastor Roberson is a regular fixture at service initiatives that make our community stronger, such as back to school giveaways, annual Christmas food basket giveaways, weekly soup kitchens and assisting families in crisis.

Pastor Roberson also holds the honor of being a guest chaplain for the House of Representatives, opening a session of Congress on October 24, 2001.

Under Pastor Roberson's leadership the congregation at First Corinthian has built a strong and resilient community that has touched the lives of people throughout North Chicago and Illinois's Tenth District. Setting an example for many to follow, and I am honored to be his representative in Congress.

Congratulations once again to Pastor Eugene Roberson, his remarkable wife, Sis. Geraldine Roberson, and his entire family. I am deeply honored to congratulate him and First Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church on their 30th pastoral anniversary, and I wish him only

great success in his future. I look forward to sharing the Journey with him.

HONORING THE LIFE OF  
SERGEANT JESSE CLAY, JR.

**HON. RANDY K. WEBER, SR.**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 2024*

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an extraordinary Texan, Sergeant Jesse Clay, Jr., who recently passed away. Born on September 16, 1929, in Kirbyville, Texas, Jesse exemplified dedication and bravery. Mr. Clay was a devout and dedicated member of the Mt. Carmel Baptist Church in Dickinson. He was baptized there and served throughout his life as an usher and member of the male chorus.

In 1952, he enlisted in the United States Army, and on June 14, 1953, during the Korean War, he was wounded under intense artillery fire. For his bravery, Jesse was awarded the prestigious Purple Heart Medal.

Despite his injury, Jesse's commitment to our Nation didn't end there. He reenlisted, serving another two years with distinction before being honorably discharged again in 1955. His dedication to duty and country is a shining example of the American spirit.

After his military service, Jesse continued to contribute to his community. He worked at Gay Pontiac, McRee Ford, and retired from NASA Clay Holt and Dickinson I.S.D. after 30 years of service. His meticulous care for the Dickinson High School football field was well-known around town, and his efforts ensured that the field was always in pristine condition.

Jesse's legacy is one of service, dedication, and community. His story is a powerful reminder of the sacrifices made by our veterans and the enduring impact of their service.

Sergeant Jesse Clay, Jr.'s life and service to our country will never be forgotten.

HONORING GARY GREEN

**HON. LOIS FRANKEL**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 2024*

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Gary Green, a long-time constituent of Palm Beach County, for being inducted into California's Music Hall of Fame and Museum. Mr. Green, known as the "Outlaw Folksinger" created music with an important message.

Mr. Green's artistry in lyrics served as a rallying cry for social change and inspired a generation of writers to utilize music as a tool for organizing and activism. Mr. Green's albums are a part of the Smithsonian Institution's Folkways Collection. His musical significance and impact as a musician were recognized when the late Pete Seeger said, "There should be a ballad of Gary Green." In turmoil times, where speaking out on social issues was frowned upon, Mr. Green continued to press forward. He is a true trailblazer, performing music of inclusive and transformative lyrics, at civil rights, labor, anti-war, and LGBTQ+ movements.

I am honored to congratulate Mr. Green for his successful contributions to both the art and

social movements. I am confident that he will continue his life path of exceptional work.

HONORING DENTON COUNTY  
CHAMBERS WASHINGTON, D.C.  
FLY IN

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 2024*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the members of the Denton County leadership delegation who are visiting Washington, D.C. this week. The Denton County Chambers come to visit every two years, and I am once again honored to host them this year.

I value these trips as they give our local leaders an insight and first-hand experience of what's happening here on the Hill. Legislation that we work on highly affects our communities back home. I am pleased to offer this opportunity and welcome the members of the Denton County Chambers to our Nation's Capitol.

I would like to thank them for their continued collaboration with my office in ensuring the economic prosperity of Denton County, making Texas the best place to live, work, and raise a family.

I would like to include in the RECORD the following names of the Denton County delegation:

Lisa Carignan, Doug Carignan, Erin Carter, Lori Fickling, Nina Hernandez, Kelly Heslep, Cindi Howard, Jon Kixmiller, William Meredith, Jim Moll, Kelly Murray, Scott Murray, Claire Powell, Sally Quezada, Ingrid Rex, Ryan Schroer, Kristi Tucker, Elliott Tucker, Ben Utley, Lori Walker, Neal Walker, and Charlotte Wilcox.

RECOGNIZING BERNIE RICKE

**HON. RASHIDA TLAIB**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 2024*

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize Bernie Ricke, former president of UAW Local 600, based in Dearborn, Michigan, for his hard work on behalf of workers across Southeast Michigan.

Mr. Ricke joined UAW Local 600 as a member in 1973 when he was hired at Ford Motor Company's Detroit Parts Distribution Center. He rose through the ranks of the union's leadership, serving in many roles including Financial Secretary, Bargaining Committee-person, and Vice President before holding the role of President from 2009 until 2023. Mr. Ricke played a key role in negotiating national labor contracts for Ford laborers over the past twenty years, amassing gains for workers and keeping jobs from being eliminated. He drew experience from his start as an hourly worker while keeping an eye towards the future to lead with compassion and advocate for the workers' best interests.

Please join me in recognizing the numerous and remarkable contributions of Mr. Bernie Ricke to Southeast Michigan, and Michigan's 12th Congressional District.

HONORING DR. SAM HILL AND  
MRS. LILLIAN HILL

**HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 2024*

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Sam Hill and Mrs. Lillian Hill for their lifetime of service to their community.

Throughout their lives, Dr. and Mrs. Hill have dedicated their time and energy to serving their community. Throughout their career in the field of education—Dr. Hill as the provost of Northern Virginia Community College and Mrs. Hill teaching students who are deaf and hard of hearing—they continuously provided students with guidance and instruction that prepared them for their next steps. Along the way, they have also volunteered with countless local organizations, donated their expertise and time as board members of various organizations, and have been involved with the Hylton Performing Arts Center since its inception. Their commitment to service is clear and worthy of recognition.

Their devotion to the betterment of their community, and the selfless mentality they bring to their volunteer work, serves as a shining example that we all can strive to follow. To pay tribute to Dr. and Mrs. Hill for their years of dedicated service, the Hylton Performing Arts Center honored them both at their 14th Anniversary Gala. It is my pleasure to congratulate Dr. and Mrs. Hill on this well-deserved recognition of their legacy of public service and commitment to education in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating and thanking Dr. Sam Hill and Mrs. Lillian Hill. Their contributions to the Commonwealth of Virginia will continue to uplift our neighbors for generations to come and I look forward to celebrating their continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE MINNESOTA  
STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO  
MAVERICKS

**HON. BRAD FINSTAD**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 2024*

Mr. FINSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize this year's NCAA Division Two Men's and Women's Basketball Champions: the Minnesota State University Mankato Mavericks.

Both Mankato's men's team and women's team took home this year's championship trophy—making the Mavericks the first school in forty years to win a double national championship. In fact, it's only the third time in history that any school won both the men's and women's championships in the same season.

Under the leadership of Coach Matt Mergenthaler, Mankato's men's team earned their first national title by defeating Nova Southeastern 88 to 85, finishing with a 35 and 2 record, while Coach Emilee Thiesse's women's team defeated Texas Woman's University 89 to 73, securing their second-ever national title and ending the season with a record of 32 to 5.