

It is an honor to bestow Dru with the Patriot Award for her exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BAYOU CLASSIC SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY VS. GRAMBLING UNIVERSITY

**HON. TROY A. CARTER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 28, 2024*

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Bayou Classic, an annual football classic that honors the heritage and accomplishments of America's Historically Black Colleges and Universities, specifically between Grambling State University and Southern University and Agricultural & Mechanical College located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana; and, Grambling State University, a member of the University of Louisiana System Institution, is in Grambling, Louisiana. Southern University A&M College, a member of the Southern University System, is in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The Bayou Classic has earned the distinction of being the No. 1 HBCU Classic in the Nation, with a storied history dating back to 1932, and has long promoted the importance of sportsmanship, musicianship, community, and traditions by representing the talents and achievements of students, staff, and alumni of Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

The Bayou Classic brings together fans and alumni of Grambling State University and Southern University and A&M College from around the globe to New Orleans, creating a vibrant celebration of football, family, traditions, and pageantry surrounding Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

The Bayou Classic's core audience primarily consists of students, alumni, military personnel, and leaders from Historically Black Colleges and Universities, with age demographics ranging from high school students, college students, university alumni, and football fanatics.

The Bayou Classic attracts participants from all over the world, but has a dedicated national audience, including but not limited to Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas.

The Bayou Classic has consistently achieved record-breaking attendance, with projections of sustained future growth, particularly the Battle of the Bands & Greek Step Show, which draws an average attendance of 30,000 with sold out crowds for the past three years, and over 60,000–65,000 attendees for Game Day.

The 44th Annual Bayou Classic in 2017 propelled the event to be recognized as the No. 1 HBCU Classic and the most attended football game in the FCS division, further solidifying its status as the No. 1 HBCU Classic in the world since 2019.

The Bayou Classic officially celebrated 50 years of HBCU football rivalry, in which Southern University defeated Grambling State 27–22, on November 25, 2023 in the City of New Orleans at the Caesars Superdome. The school's records are Southern 26 wins, Grambling 24 wins.

I am happy to recognize this event, held in Louisiana's Second Congressional District, and proclaim the Bayou Classic as an historic event that showcases the excellence, pride, and unity of Historically Black Colleges and Universities. I appreciate all attendees from around the country and beyond who joined us in celebrating this momentous occasion, and to recognize the enduring legacy of the Bayou Classic, as we celebrated the 50th Anniversary.

CONGRATULATIONS TO A TRIBE FOR JAZZ

**HON. JOYCE BEATTY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 28, 2024*

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations and honor A Tribe for Jazz for receiving the Battelle Central Ohio STEM Grant for their innovative Jazz Lab Mobile Pilot Initiative in partnership with COSI, the PAST Foundation, and Columbus Department of Recreation and Parks.

Since its establishment in 2021, A Tribe for Jazz has not only been a beacon of cultural enrichment and social impact, but also a catalyst for change in our community. Through a multifaceted mission that includes visual storytelling, live and virtual performances, education, and community engagement, the organization has consistently championed the preservation and evolution of Jazz, leaving an indelible mark on our cultural landscape.

The Jazz Lab is a mobile pop-up session uniting jazz music and science through immersive experiences that nurture curiosity, inclusivity, collaboration, and wonder. The pilot program for middle and elementary school students explores systems thinking in jazz through technology, engineering, and math, highlighting the intersection of jazz and STEM. With support from the Battelle Central Ohio STEM Grant, students in Central Ohio gain enriched access to jazz and STEM education.

The Jazz Lab Mobile Pilot Initiative is valuable for everyone in Central Ohio. It illustrates the possibilities for STEAM in all fields and everyday life. Congratulations to A Tribe for Jazz for bringing this extraordinary educational experience to our children.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT JIM NEWMAN

**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 28, 2024*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Jim Randell Newman of Frisco, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Jim has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community.

A fifth-generation resident of Frisco, Jim attended Frisco High School and graduated in 1975. Two years later, he graduated magna cum laude from Texas A&M University with a degree in agricultural economics. In 1978, Jim married the love of his life, Dru, and they raised two children. That same year, he estab-

lished Newman Real Estate to manage property developments around Frisco and became a certified Property Tax Consultant shortly after. For nearly five decades, Jim has worked diligently to support the youth in our community and empower them to be successful. He firmly believes that our Nation's children is our greatest asset, and he has made good on his promise to ensure they receive positive guidance in life. Jim has mentored high school students while working with school bands, sports clubs, and school bond programs.

Furthermore, Jim is passionate about community service and the conservation of nature. He was a member of the North American Mission Board, the Texas Mission Foundation, and Christian Hands in Action to help provide disaster relief and humanitarian aid for families in need. Jim also served as a dedicated RA director at Frisco First Baptist Church for many years. For his outstanding work in community and business development, Jim was presented with the Micro Business Award, the Small Business Award, and the Developer of the Year Award by the Frisco Chamber of Commerce. In his free time, he is a devoted outdoorsman and enjoys hunting and fishing. I am proud of Jim's contributions to our community, and I am sure he will continue to make a positive impact on the world around us.

It is an honor to bestow Jim with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2025

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 26, 2024*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of the inclusion of a pilot program for a national simulation-based emergency preparedness network in the Fiscal Year 2025 Homeland Security Appropriations Act. This pilot program will support the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Health Security's (OHS) mission to strengthen the Nation's health security through leadership and partnership, a safer and healthier Department of Homeland Security (DHS) workforce, and optimal care for patients.

I worked on this language with my fellow co-chairs of the Modeling and Simulation Caucus, Reps. BERGMAN, SORESENSEN, and RUTHERFORD and am pleased to see it included.

The simulation-based emergency preparedness network will deliver simulation-based training that meets existing and emerging local and regional needs to licensed healthcare professionals, first responders, and volunteers. This network supports all five phases of emergency management by ensuring our vital healthcare workforce is prepared prior to an emergency, able to respond effectively, save lives, prevent further damage, and contribute to healing during recovery. The program will also serve the training needs of the greater U.S. healthcare system.

Unfortunately, the underlying appropriations bill fails to invest in other national needs. It fails to fund effective strategies to keep our communities safe, much needed programs to

assist migrants, and critical programs to combat public health threats. The bill also limits the ability of the department to counter misinformation, meet cybersecurity needs, and bans abortion services for individuals in U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) custody. I urge my colleagues to maintain this program to further modeling and simulation-based emergency preparedness network as we work towards a mutually agreeable funding bill.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIMMY GOMEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 28, 2024*

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, on June 26, 2024, I was not recorded on Roll Call No. 283. Had I been present, I would have voted "NAY" on Roll Call No. 283.

On June 27, 2024, I was not recorded on Roll Call No. 318 and No. 320. Had I been present, I would have voted "NAY" on Roll Call No. 318 and No. 320.

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CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF TURNER INDUSTRIES' PARIS FACILITY

**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 28, 2024*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Turner Industries' pipe fabrication facility in Paris, Texas. Turner Industries specializes in innovative industrial contracting to fully meet client needs while prioritizing safety, efficiency, and reliability.

Turner Industries was first established in 1961 by Bert Turner, a young engineer with an entrepreneurial vision. Over the years, it has expanded its presence along the Gulf Coast and offered additional services, including construction, transportation, maintenance, and steel fabrication. In 1998, Turner opened its state-of-the-art pipe fabrication facility in Paris with over 375 acres of space. Each pipe assembled here is precision-built to support power generation facilities, refineries, and petrochemical plants across the nation.

For its outstanding work, Turner Industries has been recognized as the number one industrial contractor in the Associated Builders and Contractors' Top 250 Contractors list. It has also been honored by the Construction Users Roundtable and presented with the prestigious Construction Industry Safety Excellence Award three times for its commitment to employee safety.

In addition to serving as a critical energy backbone for our nation, Turner employs over 20,000 hardworking professionals across its facilities. It has invested in a new Operations Building at its Paris facility, which will greatly contribute to the North Texas workforce and community. I would like to especially recognize Mr. Chris Bailey, who serves as the Plant Manager and Vice President for Turner's Paris

operations. Mr. Bailey has dedicated himself to building and supporting educational programs in the North Texas community.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize this historic occasion and investment for the people of District 4. Congratulations to Turner Industries, and I wish them the best.

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HONORING COMMANDING OFFICER, COLONEL MICHAEL L. BROOKS' CAREER AT MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO

**HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 28, 2024*

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Colonel Michael L. Brooks for a successful three-year tour as commanding officer of Marine Corps Base Quantico.

A native Virginian, Colonel Brooks' thirty-six years of honorable service to our country began when he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1988. From his first assignment as the operations clerk in the S-3 office at Camp Lejeune to his tour as the commanding officer of Marine Corps Base Quantico, his dedication to the Marine Corps mission is unwavering.

Colonel Brooks has deployed to support various military operations during his career. In 1990 and 1991, he deployed in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He was then deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II, participated in the July 2006 evacuation of American citizens in Beirut, Lebanon, and assisted in operations Infinite Moonlight in Jordan and Inspired Union in Kuwait.

Throughout his service, his commitment to his education and leadership has never wavered. In 1992, he was assigned to Officer Candidate School at Quantico, the very base he would lead thirty years later. Before finishing his tour with 2d Marines, Colonel Brooks earned a degree in psychology from Campbell University. In 2011, then-Major Brooks attended Resident Command and Staff College in Quantico and soon after was selected to attend the Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Since assuming command of Marine Corps Base Quantico in 2021, Colonel Brooks has contributed to the base's distinction as the nation's premiere training institution for the Marine Corps. His contributions will undoubtedly leave a lasting impact not only on the base, but on the wider region. He prioritized strengthening vital relationships in the community and presided over the installation's \$6.96 billion total economic impact, all while upholding the base's proud traditions set forth over one hundred years ago.

Throughout his service, Colonel Brooks has earned numerous decorations including the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (3d award), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (5th award), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (3d award), and the Combat Action Ribbon.

Colonel Brooks is the true embodiment of the USMC's slogan *Semper Fidelis*. I thank

him for his tireless commitment to protecting our nation and commend him for the positive example his leadership has set for all of us throughout his long and distinguished military career.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating and thanking Colonel Michael L. Brooks for his steadfast and unwavering service to our country, and in wishing him the best as he takes the next step in his career at his last duty station in New Orleans.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 28, 2024*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I entered my vote incorrectly for Roll Call No. 325 on H.R. 8774. I mistakenly voted NAY when I intended to vote YEA.

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RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT BRANDON BELL

**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 28, 2024*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Judge Brandon Bell of Paris, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Judge Bell has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community.

Judge Bell is a seventh generation Texan who was born in Paris, Texas. In 1999, he graduated from Texas A&M University at Commerce with a Bachelor of Professional Accountancy. Judge Bell later received his Juris Doctor from SMU Dedman School of Law in 2004. He initially clerked for Judge Sidney A. Fitzwater, the chief U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Texas, before being admitted to the Texas State Bar in November 2004. Judge Bell is licensed as an attorney and Certified Public Accountant. He began his lengthy legal career at Boyd Veigel and specializes in family law, criminal defense, and tax law. In 2019, Judge Bell was elected as Lamar County Judge. In addition to presiding over criminal and civil matters, he is passionate about granting foster parents the opportunity to become the legal guardians for disabled children.

Separately, Judge Bell is involved in numerous charitable initiatives. He previously served on the board of the New Hope Center of Paris and coaches Dixie Youth Baseball in his free time. He is also a member of the Roan Oak Masonic Lodge and the Dallas Scottish Rite. Judge Bell is a devoted man of faith, and he attends South Side Baptist Church with his wife, Amanda, and his two children. I commend Judge Bell for his lifelong commitment to serving our community and empowering foster families. His efforts have helped many underprivileged children find a caring and loving home.

It is an honor to bestow Judge Bell with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.