

I would also like to recognize all the teachers, faculty, and staff of Jefferson for their dedication and tireless work to enrich the lives of students, empower them to become productive citizens, and leaders in their communities. It takes a village to educate and raise children and without their work, Jefferson High School would not be able to operate.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring Jefferson High School for their 75 years of educational excellence and its profound impact on the lives of countless students, families, and the broader community. Long live Jeff (Viva la Jeff).

HONORING THE LEGACY OF  
CONGRESSMAN BILL PASCRELL

**HON. MIKE CAREY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 10, 2024*

Mr. CAREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Congressman Bill Pascrell, who passed away last month after serving nearly three decades in Congress.

It was a privilege to serve alongside Bill on the Ways & Means Committee. Though we sat on different sides of the aisle, Bill's warmth, humor and dedication to his constituents can be a source of inspiration for all of us.

Bill was born in Paterson, New Jersey. America's first industrial city. Through the years he saw his community grow and change, but like the city's great falls, he remained a steadfast engine for progress.

I got to know Bill during events with the Italian American caucus, where we could talk about our shared heritage over glasses of Primitivo and Montepulciano. In the spirit of those days, I would like to share a message in memory of this great man and his legacy:

"My friend, you will not be forgotten. (Amico mio, non sarai dimenticato)."

HONORING DR. CALVIN MOON

**HON. ANDY KIM**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 10, 2024*

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the selfless service and incredible accomplishments of Dr. Calvin Moon, a United States Navy Veteran, who passed earlier this month.

Born in Yardville, Calvin spent his life in southern New Jersey. After graduating from Bordentown High School, he served in the United States Navy Submarine Service as a Petty Officer First Class Radar Operator on the Razorback Submarine in World War II. His bravery during his service played an integral role on the Pacific Front. After his service, he returned to New Jersey and earned a bachelor's degree in agricultural research from Rutgers University. Calvin then continued his studies at the University of Pennsylvania earning a doctorate of veterinary medicine in 1952.

Calvin was also a devoted veterinarian practicing in his hometown. While he began his career at the Wood Veterinary Hospital, he later helped launch the Hamilton Veterinary Hospital. Additionally, Calvin was a key player in

establishing the Columbus Central Veterinary Hospital and served 20 years as their Medical Director, in addition to his service as a diplomat with the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners. His devotion to ensuring the beloved pets of families were taken care of was an inspiration to all those who knew him.

Outside his professional work, Calvin was an active member of his community. Having served on the Northern Burlington High School Board of Education and as scoutmaster for Troop 55 in Crosswicks, Calvin received the Father of the Year Award in Chesterfield, New Jersey. In addition to all those contributions, he was also a radio operator for Mercer County Emergency Service, a member of the Rutgers Oral History Society, the Base Commander of the New Jersey South Submarine Veterans, and Honorary Life Member of the USS Razorback Association. I commend him for his deep roots in our community, and for his desire to uplift youth, veterans, and all of his neighbors.

Calvin was, at his core, a loving husband to June Ann Moon. In their 76 years of marriage, the Moons had four children, seven grandchildren, and now five great-grandchildren.

While many community members locally know Calvin and his positive impact in our community, today I'm proud to honor his tenure as a veteran of the United States Navy, a valued member of our community, and as a husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. We are fortunate to be able to carry on his legacy of service and to have his life's work as inspiration in our community.

HONORING GERALDINE GRAMMER

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 10, 2024*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious and self-motivated leader, Mrs. Geraldine Grammer. Mrs. Grammer has been a champion of education and community service, and dedication to Bolivar County, surrounding counties and the State of Mississippi.

Mrs. Grammer is a retired educator and had redirected her life to one of service in helping people everywhere. She is a resident of Shelby, Mississippi, and president of the Alcorn Bolivar County Alumni Chapter of Alcorn State University. She recently received the Frank Dobbins Chapter President of the Year award for 2024. Mrs. Grammer joined the Alcorn State University Bolivar County Alumni Chapter in 2016 and in 2019 she became the chapter's president. Since becoming president, she has devoted countless hours toward working with the various committees to involve parents and high school students in applying for scholarships. They have awarded thousands of dollars in scholarships and provided students with beginning college gifts, such as printers, laptops, hampers, luggage, towels and essentials to start college life.

Mrs. Grammer's outlook and passion for education has had a profound impact on not only Shelby but the surrounding communities as well. Her continuous progress that as a community and state are making enforces the fact that she is focused on protecting the well-being of the community and that our local students are prepared for college life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Geraldine Grammer for her outstanding dedication, compassion and advocacy in her community. Her selfless service to her community, surrounding areas in the MS Delta, and the Alcorn State University Bolivar County Alumni Chapter are commended.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MICHAEL A. RULLI**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 10, 2024*

Mr. RULLI. Mr. Speaker, due to an issue with my staff getting me my vote card, I was unavailable for Roll Call No. 401. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 401.

CELEBRATING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL IN HONESDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

**HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 10, 2024*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize a remarkable and historic milestone for a cherished institution in the Eighth Congressional District of Pennsylvania: the 75th Anniversary of Congregation Beth Israel. Located in Honesdale, a picturesque borough nestled in the hills of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Congregation Beth Israel holds the esteemed title of being the oldest continually operating synagogue in America still in its original building.

In September of 1849, amidst the backdrop of thousands moving westward in search of new opportunities, eleven pioneering men gathered in a modest home on Main Street in Honesdale. In the flickering light of kerosene lamps, they made a commitment that would profoundly shape our community. They pledged to form a Jewish congregation to serve the members of the Jewish faith, laying the foundation for what would become a beacon of faith and perseverance.

By 1856, these visionaries celebrated the first services held in their new building on Court Street. This structure has withstood the test of time, continuing to serve as a spiritual home for generations. It truly is a testament to the resilience and dedication of the Jewish community in Honesdale.

Today, Congregation Beth Israel remains a living symbol of Northeastern Pennsylvania's rich heritage and bright future. Exemplifying this fact are the descendants of three of the congregation's original eleven families, who continue to play an active role in the synagogue's life and mission.

As we mark this 175th Anniversary, we celebrate not just a historical milestone but the vibrant, enduring spirit of Congregation Beth Israel. The synagogue is not only a cornerstone of our community's religious life but also a living testament to the dedication and faith of its members. The echoes of prayers and songs that fill the pews today are a reminder of the deep roots and unwavering commitment of this congregation.

It is with great pride and admiration that I recognize Congregation Beth Israel's 175 years of contributing to our community and to the broader American tapestry of religious and cultural diversity. The history and ongoing vitality of this institution serve as a powerful reminder of the strength and unity found in faith and community.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Congregation Beth Israel on this historic anniversary. I thank them for all they have done and continue to do for the Jewish community of Pennsylvania's Eighth Congressional District. May their congregation continue to thrive and inspire for many years to come.

HONORING THE 17TH PRESIDENT OF FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE, DR. ANNE B. KERR

**HON. SCOTT FRANKLIN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 10, 2024*

Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Anne B. Kerr, who recently retired from her role as the 17th president of Florida Southern College. Her dedication to academic excellence and a quality campus life experience transformed Florida Southern into one of the best liberal arts colleges in the South.

Dr. Kerr developed her interest in education during her psychology studies at Mercer University. She then earned a master's degree in counseling and a doctorate in higher education administration from Florida State University. Prior to her tenure at Florida Southern, Dr. Kerr held executive roles at Rollins College and the University of Central Florida before serving as the University of Richmond's Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

Dr. Kerr's 20-year tenure as Florida Southern College's 17th president was the second-longest in the school's history. Her steadfast leadership yielded the college's highest enrollment numbers and academic ranking. The college became a top producer of Fulbright Scholars in the Nation, a prestigious scholarship for students pursuing studies abroad. To house Florida Southern's monumental growth, the college added 22 new buildings, expanded 20 others and restored many of the famed Frank Lloyd Wright buildings.

Dr. Kerr also helped expand Florida Southern's academic offerings by adding 19 new graduate degree programs, including the Barney Barnett School of Business and Economics, the first named school on campus. Other new programs were added in accounting, education, nursing and physical therapy. On the eve of her retirement, she also announced the emergence of a new undergraduate architecture program, with a graduate program to follow in 2028.

Dr. Kerr declared at the start of her tenure she wanted FSC to be "recognized as one of the nation's small, preeminent colleges." It is safe to say she exceeded her vision. Dr. Kerr's success was driven by her faith and the fulfillment brought by seeing her students achieve their dreams. We are lucky she intends to continue to inspire future generations, returning to Florida Southern in Spring 2025 to teach a leadership course in the Barnett School of Business.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Kerr's accomplishments and passion for students is an inspiration to us all. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing her an enjoyable and well-deserved retirement.

HONORING SAMMIA ALLEN-THOMAS

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 10, 2024*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor the exceptional accomplishments of Sammia Allen-Thomas, a remarkable student from Yazoo City High School.

Ranking fourth in her graduating class, Sammia's extensive list of achievements speaks volumes about her dedication, talent, and hard work. Her academic honors include the Highest Honor, Distinguished Academic Endorsement, Mississippi Delta Honor Graduate, ACT 20 Plus Club with a score of 24—the second highest ACT score in the district—Miss ACT for both the 2022–2023 and 2023–2024 academic years; and memberships in the National Honor Society, National Technology Honor Society, and Beta Club. She also served as Vice President of both the Math and Science Club and the National Technical Honor Society.

Balancing a demanding academic schedule, Sammia also excelled in athletics. She was the co-captain of the cheer team for three years, earning the title of UCA All American Cheerleader. Additionally, she served as the co-captain of the softball team, being named Softball MVP and All District Player.

Her hard work has been recognized through numerous awards and scholarships, including the National JROTC Sojourners Award, Delta Honor Scholar, Gerald D. Peyton Scholarship, Yazoo Keeper Scholarship, 21 Club Pageant winner and Scholarship, Community Solutions of Mississippi Scholarship, the fourth Annual Shanda Allen-Smith Educational Scholarship, and the Yazoo City High School Class of 1992 Scholarship. Sammia has also been awarded a full academic scholarship to Mississippi Valley State University, where she plans to major in Early Childhood Education and join the cheer team. She aspires to open a preschool to provide young children with a strong educational foundation.

Beyond her academic and athletic pursuits, Sammia has demonstrated a strong commitment to civic duty. She has volunteered at nursing homes, assisted fellow students with ACT preparation, and actively participated in church activities at New King Solomon M.B. Church. Through these efforts, she has made meaningful contributions to her community, fostering unity and compassion.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Sammia Allen-Thomas for her outstanding achievements. Her story is a testament to the power of dedication, resilience, and community support. As she embarks on her journey at Mississippi Valley State University, we wish her continued success and look forward to the positive impact she will undoubtedly make in the future.

HONORING JIMMY RUSSELL

**HON. ANDY BARR**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 10, 2024*

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a special man, Jimmy Russell, from Lawrenceburg, Kentucky. Mr. Russell, an icon in the bourbon industry, marks his 70th anniversary at Wild Turkey distillery.

Mr. Russell grew up in Anderson County, five miles from Wild Turkey. He followed in his father's footsteps and went to work at Wild Turkey, then known as Anderson County Distilling, sweeping floors. He rotated jobs and learned all the steps involved in making bourbon, discovering that no job is too small and no task too tedious when it comes to making bourbon the right way. In 1967, he became Master Distiller, a position that he held for nearly half a century. Today he is Co-Master Distiller alongside his son Eddie Russell. He is the longest tenured active Master Distiller in the industry.

Mr. Russell has earned numerous accolades for his outstanding work, including being named to the Kentucky Bourbon Hall of Fame, the Whiskey Hall of Fame, and a lifetime honorary member of the Kentucky Distiller's Association. He has been named a Kentucky Colonel by three Kentucky governors and has been a whiskey judge for the International Wine and Spirits Competition.

Mr. Russell is a fixture at the distillery, where he serves as a goodwill ambassador, greeting tourists at the visitor's center, charming them as he imparts knowledge about bourbon, signing bottles, and posing for pictures. He also samples and shares his opinion on new bourbons being developed at Wild Turkey. He enjoys working alongside his son Eddie and grandson Bruce.

Mr. Russell has contributed greatly to the success of the bourbon industry, one of Kentucky's signature industries. It is my honor to lift up the life of this true Kentucky treasure, Mr. Jimmy Russell, and celebrate his 70 years at Wild Turkey.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DAVID WALKER

**HON. ROBERT C. "Bobby" SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 10, 2024*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and sacrifice of Mess Attendant 3rd Class David Walker.

David Walker was raised in Portsmouth, Virginia, where he attended I.C. Norcom High School, one of the first Black high schools in Virginia. Before graduating, he decided to leave school to join the Navy. At the time, the Navy offered few jobs to African Americans, so Mr. Walker enlisted as a mess attendant.

On December 7, 1941, David Walker was serving aboard the USS *California* at Naval Station Pearl Harbor when the base was attacked by Japanese forces. The USS *California* sank during the attack, and Mr. Walker sadly perished along with 102 other sailors aboard the ship. The remains of many fallen sailors were identified in the years following