

the attack, but Mr. Walker's remains were not accounted for at the time and were reburied in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, Hawaii.

With advances in identification technology, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency decided in 2018 to exhume unknown remains from the national cemetery in hopes of identifying unaccounted sailors. After nearly 82 years following the attack on Pearl Harbor, David Walker's remains were identified earlier this year and were interred in Arlington National Cemetery on September 5, 2024.

Honoring those who have fallen in the line of duty is one of the most sacred responsibilities of our government. Many like David Walker still wait to be identified decades after sacrificing their lives for their country. I want to thank the staff at the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency for their work towards finding David Walker and all other servicemembers still lost. We must continue to support this work, so these fallen Americans may receive the recognition they deserve.

**RECOGNIZING DR. MEHMET  
ULUPINAR**

**HON. J. FRENCH HILL**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 10, 2024*

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Mehmet Ulupinar for being awarded the FBI Director's Community Leadership Award.

Dr. Ulupinar received the award because of his service to Little Rock through his work as president of the board for the Arkansas Culture and Dialog Center, a nonprofit that aims to promote the understanding of diverse cultures.

He worked tirelessly to foster relationships between the diverse communities and law enforcement in Arkansas by providing educational, social, and cultural services.

Through his work, central Arkansas will be a safer, more connected community.

I thank Dr. Ulupinar for his great work in central Arkansas and I congratulate him on his outstanding achievement.

**HONORING MT. HOREB M.B.  
CHURCH**

**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 a pillar of the community, Mt. Horeb M.B. Church.

Mt. Horeb M.B. Church was organized in 1864 by Rev. Moses B. Black, a missionary sent to the Mississippi Delta by the Baptist Home Missionary Society. This made Mount Horeb the first African American church in Greenville and Washington County, hence the oldest. He pulled together a small group of former slaves, Paul Woodruff, Jerry Bland, Riley Barnes, Jim Campbell, and Shep Hughes. They named the church Mt. Horeb. Horeb which is another name for Mt. Sinai which means "Desolate Place." The church

boasted a membership of around 310 members.

During the early years, the organizers faced challenges in securing a building for worship, as much of Greenville had been destroyed by federal troops during the Civil War. The first building was located on Levee Street, but it was eventually lost to the Mississippi River and the construction of the current levee. Concerned about the river's encroachment, the congregation heeded the advice of the Church's Elders and relocated to the corner of Nelson and Broadway streets. Due to delays, nearly four years passed before a new building was constructed, leading to 1886 being mistakenly recognized as the church's founding year. Part of the land for the original church was purchased from B.L. Lee for \$135.00, and in 1909, an impressive two-story structure with stained glass windows was completed.

Shep Hughes, the longest surviving member of the original group, served as a vital link to future generations. When the late historian Leon C. Chapple completed the church's history, he asked Brother Hughes, "Why the name Mount Horeb?" noting that there were no mountains, hills, or elevated places within a 75-mile radius. It hadn't occurred to Brother Hughes why the church was named Mount Horeb. His response, though simple, was poignant and sentimental: the founders, barely three years removed from the harshness of slavery, felt like the children of Israel emerging from the valley of sin. They began to thirst, not for natural waters, but for the waters of righteousness. Thus, they named the church Mount Horeb, envisioning it as a place where the weary and repentant could come to freely drink from God's life-giving waters.

From the founding pastor to their current pastor, Dr. Albert Calvin, Jr., Mt. Horeb has been served by 21 pastors, with Dr. Calvin serving the longest at 45 years.

In 1993, a Historical Marker was erected by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, which is in the front of the church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mt. Horeb M.B. Church for its rich heritage and dedication to serving others and giving back to the community.

**CELEBRATING NATIONAL  
AEROSPACE WEEK**

**HON. RON ESTES**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 10, 2024*

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Aerospace Week.

For more than a century, American aerospace trailblazers have propelled the United States to the forefront of global innovation in critical sectors—national defense, safe and reliable transportation, sustainability, advanced manufacturing, and space exploration. National Aerospace Week recognizes the vital role that aerospace organizations and workers play in advancing our nation's security, economy, and technological leadership.

The aerospace industry continues to surge to new heights. In 2023 alone, American aerospace and defense generated an astounding \$955 billion in total sales across the value chain—from small mom-and-pop businesses

to the largest equipment manufacturers. These businesses support more than 2.2 million highly skilled workers across the country, with nearly half of these jobs coming from the supply chain sector. And Americans want to work in aerospace and defense. Not just because the average income is 50 percent above the national average, but because they identify and connect with the industry's mission and its contributions to the United States. With a footprint in every single state, including in my state of Kansas—home to the Air Capital of the World—the aerospace and defense workforce is the backbone of our economy, contributing \$425 billion to the U.S. GDP last year.

The importance of aerospace and defense cannot be overstated. As a close partner with the U.S. military, the industry is a cornerstone of our national security and a critical component of our asymmetric advantage over our adversaries. It is a key tenet of our national defense strategy, equipping our courageous men and women in uniform with the most advanced and effective systems in the world to deter and, if necessary, fight and win wars. Because of the ingenuity and resilience of American innovators, our military is the best in the world.

We are also the global leader in new technologies in aerospace and air transport—technologies that are highly sought-after across the globe. This includes the fastest, safest, most efficient jets; new technologies like advanced air mobility that will enable Americans to get to wherever they want to go—including, eventually, space; and sustainable innovations that will help us be good stewards of our natural resources for generations to come.

The diverse and innovative nature of the businesses that make up the A&D supply chain keeps America on the cutting edge of an ever-evolving global market. Simply put, the world wants what American aerospace is innovating—we are the gold standard.

As we celebrate National Aerospace Week, let us look to the future, where this industry continues to inspire and drive change that will shape the world for generations to come.

**CONGRATULATING THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY STUDY INSTITUTE (EESI) ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. JULIA BROWNLEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 10, 2024*

Ms. BROWNLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the accomplishments of the Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI), which is celebrating a 40-year history of advancing climate solutions. The institute was founded by a bipartisan group of members of Congress, including then-Rep. Richard L. "Dick" Ottinger (D-N.Y.), who continues to serve on its board of directors as chair emeritus, and then-Rep. Thomas B. Evans (R-Del.). Since 1984, EESI has worked in a non-partisan manner to provide science-based educational resources to policymakers and the public. As we enter this decisive decade for climate action, the role played by EESI in advancing science-based solutions for climate change, energy, and environmental challenges is more important than ever.

On multiple occasions, I have had the pleasure of working closely with EESI. For example, their briefing on lowering carbon emissions from commercial aviation coincided with the initial release of my bill, the Sustainable Aviation Fuel Act (H.R. 2747). I also spoke at an EESI briefing on food waste reduction in December 2021. While I served on the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis from 2019 to 2023, EESI submitted a substantive response to our request for information. The institute also organized a briefing about the report issued by the Select Committee majority in June 2020.

I commend EESI for serving as a trusted source of credible, nonpartisan, science-based information about energy and environmental topics and climate change solutions. EESI has helped to strengthen federal climate policy. Each year, the institute produces more than 20 Congressional briefings, 35 newsletters, and 100 articles, as well as fact sheets, issue briefs, and podcast episodes. Since 2010, EESI has also provided free technical assistance to help dozens of rural utilities across the country develop and implement inclusive on-bill financing programs for energy efficiency, renewable energy, and beneficial electrification.

I truly hope that EESI will continue to work with Congress for the next 40 years, continuing to prioritize the climate, advancing solutions, fostering bipartisanship, supporting rural communities, and cultivating young leaders.

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HONORING THE MISSISSIPPI  
HUMANITIES COUNCIL

**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 the Mississippi Humanities Council. The organization has gone beyond the call of duty to ensure Mississippians' stories are told and their lives are enriched through civil conversations about their history and culture.

The Mississippi Committee for the Humanities was founded in March of 1972 with a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, which was working to create and support a new system of state humanities councils that could carry out and fund grassroots public humanities programs. Porter Fortune, Chancellor of the University of Mississippi, was the founding chairman of the organization, which later changed its name to the Mississippi Humanities Council. The Council's commitment to supporting grassroots public humanities programs has been unwavering since its inception.

Founded amidst the turmoil of federally imposed integration, the MS Humanities Council

played a crucial role in helping to bring about social change in Mississippi. It organized and supported interracial meetings and funded grants to communities for discussions on desegregation and other important issues. More important than the funding was the Council's ability to offer state-level legitimacy for such discussions and to serve as an impartial broker among differing points of view. The Council's commitment to fairness and impartiality was unwavering as it worked to bring the insights of humanities scholars to the critical contemporary issues the state faced.

In 2013, Dr. Stuart Rockoff became the third executive director of the MS Humanities Council. Under Dr. Rockoff's leadership, the MS Humanities Council expanded its council programming, launching new initiatives like "Ideas on Tap" and prison education and increasing its grant-making throughout the state. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council distributed over \$1 million in federal aid in support of cultural institutions in Mississippi. The MS Humanities Council also has a prison education and MS Freedom Trail program.

The Mississippi Freedom Trail was created to commemorate the people and places in the state that played a pivotal role in the American Civil Rights Movement. Under the leadership of Visit Mississippi, the first Freedom Trail markers were unveiled in 2011 in conjunction with the 50th anniversary reunion of the Freedom Riders. In June 2024, the MS Humanities Council unveiled five new markers to the Mississippi Freedom Trail. In celebration of the 60th anniversary of Freedom Summer, each marker unveiled is connected to the pivotal work of Mississippi's Freedom Summer Project. MS Humanities Council unveiled the first Freedom Trail marker outside the state on August 20th in Atlantic City, New Jersey. This marker honored the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party and its efforts in the 1964 Democratic Convention. This ongoing effort honors Mississippi's profound role in the Civil Rights Movement and underscores its national significance. Dr. Rockoff and his staff, John Spann, Carol Anderson, Kam Hoskins, Carla Faulkner, Sandra Johnson, and Katie Molpus have worked tirelessly to ensure Mississippians' stories are told.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing The Mississippi Humanities Council for their service in the field of Public History.

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PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF THE  
240TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
WHEATLEY METHODIST CHURCH  
BUILDING

**HON. ANDY HARRIS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 10, 2024*

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation in honor of

the 240th anniversary of the historic Wheatley Methodist Church building in Rhodesdale, Maryland, the completion of its five-year preservation project between 2019 and 2024 and the church being established as an independent legal entity known as Wheatley Methodist Church, effective November 1, 2023.

Whereas, Wheatley Methodist Church (WMC) was erected in 1784 on land King George II granted to a William Wheatley, during the eighteenth century. It was built with intent to be a "preaching house served by clergy of those people called Methodist or a friendly clergy of the Church of England" and

Whereas, this heavy old growth timber frame structure secured with wrought nails has existed since one year following the victorious American Revolution in October 1783 and five years prior to George Washington becoming the first elected American president; and

Whereas, most Early American rural church buildings were either demolished or abandoned and left no decay. The Wheatley Methodist Church building has existed for 240 years continuously serving its original intent; and

Whereas, in 2019 existing colonial era horizontal wood plank interior wall covering was discovered underneath presenting Victorian era pressed tin. Further search revealed serious construction issues causing the building be condemned. Members' faith directed a decision to preserve the historic structure; and

Whereas, the five-year preservation project (2019-2024) quickly became the pride of surrounding communities. Financing for the \$110,000+ project materialized from donations of monies, time, materials, multiple fund raisers, and two matching grants awarded by: the Bartus Trew Providence Preservation Fund of the National Trust for Historic Preservation (\$15,000) and the Choptank Electric Trust, Inc. (\$2,400); and

Whereas, the Wheatley Methodist Church is believed to be the oldest American Methodist church with a continuously active congregation worshipping in its original building erected to be a Methodist church and the historic structure continues serving its original intent well into the 21st century. It is a tangible link to its Early American heritage of religious family life in an agricultural community.

Now, therefore, I, Andy Harris, Member of Congress, do hereby proclaim and celebrate Wheatley Methodist Church on its historic building's 240th anniversary, the completion of its five-year preservation project and the church being established as an independent legal entity known as Wheatley Methodist Church, effective November 1, 2023.