

Women of the Year. Charmaine is a dedicated Community Benefit Manager, with over fifteen years of experience in public affairs and community benefit in Kaiser Permanente's Napa-Solano Service Area. As a Community Benefit Specialist, she manages a \$1 million annual budget and oversees sponsorships, in-kind donations, and staff volunteer programs. Her work increases employee outreach and provides meaningful community engagement opportunities. Charmaine was nominated and accepted to join the 2025–2026 Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, where she advocates for initiatives that will deliver substantial economic benefits to the Solano community. In addition to her professional role, Charmaine is an entrepreneur and community advocate. She is the proud owner of The Vault Event Center, as well as the co-owner of a local wine bar in Suisun, where she connects with community members through hospitality and shared experiences. Balancing her professional and entrepreneurial pursuits with family life, Charmaine is a proud wife and mother of three children. She remains deeply committed to supporting local causes, fostering community connections, and creating environments, both in her professional and personal life, where people feel seen, celebrated, and empowered. On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Charmaine Gandy for her invaluable contributions to our community.

CELEBRATING ROGER CARPENTER'S 75 YEARS OF SERVICE AS SCOUTMASTER OF TROOP 316, OAK HARBOR, OHIO

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 2025

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a truly remarkable American, Mr. Roger Carpenter of Oak Harbor, Ohio, who just celebrated an extraordinary milestone: seventy-five years of service as Scoutmaster of Troop 316.

Seventy-five years, that's three-quarters of a century of guiding, teaching, and uplifting generations of young people. Shaping their character, their sense of service, and their love for community. Few can say they have given so much of themselves, for so long, to a single purpose. But Roger Carpenter can. And he has done so with a humble heart, steadfast faith, and a pair of calloused hands that never stop building, fixing, or helping.

At 97 years young, Roger remains active with his troop, recently repairing the very log splitter used to make the Scouts' famous apple butter. This tradition has warmed both hearts and bellies at the Oak Harbor Apple Festival for decades. This festival, itself a celebration of community spirit, fittingly chose this year to honor Roger for his life of selfless service.

He is believed to be the longest-serving Scoutmaster in our nation's history. But beyond the record books, his impact is written in the lives of the hundreds, more likely perhaps thousands, of young men he has mentored. Many of them have gone on to serve their country, their neighbors, and their families with the same quiet strength they learned under his guidance.

During this year's festival, we presented Roger with a flag flown over our United States Capitol as a symbol of the deep gratitude we hold for his unwavering devotion to the values that Scouting and citizenship share: duty, honor, leadership, and service.

As we constantly reflect on what it means to build a strong America, we must look to people like Roger Carpenter. Those who invest in others, who give without seeking recognition, and who, year after year, live the ideals they teach. His life is a testament to what one dedicated citizen can do to shape the moral fabric of a community and a nation.

So today, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives and the people of Northwest Ohio, I extend our deepest congratulations and gratitude to Scoutmaster Roger Carpenter for 75 years of remarkable leadership, for his enduring spirit, and for reminding us all that service to others is the truest form of patriotism.

I thank Roger for being a living example of the Scout Oath and Law and for inspiring us all to leave this world a little better than we found it.

HONORING MAJOR AARON REEP

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 2025

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Major Aaron Reep's distinguished service as a Marine Corps House Liaison Officer from January 2024 to December 2025.

Following his exemplary service as a Department of Defense Legislative Fellow in my office, Major Reep continued his dedication to our Nation by serving as a legislative liaison in the Marine Corps House Liaison Office. In this critical role bridging the Marine Corps and Congress, Aaron has demonstrated exceptional leadership and strategic acumen.

During his tenure, Major Reep led 22 Congressional delegations to 33 countries and 6 states, facilitating vital strategic engagements and oversight of our national security priorities. Through these delegations, he ensured Members of Congress gained firsthand understanding of Marine Corps operations, readiness challenges, and the strategic environment facing our forces worldwide.

Aaron enhanced the Marine Corps' special relationship with Congress through direct engagement with 65 Members of Congress and 78 Congressional staff, including House Leadership and committee staff. His expertise in defense policy and Marine Corps operations proved invaluable in educating lawmakers on critical issues affecting our Marines and their families.

Major Reep's work has been instrumental in advancing Marine Corps modernization priorities, particularly Force Design 2030 initiatives and the development of Stand-in Forces capabilities essential for deterring aggression in the Indo-Pacific. His efforts directly supported Congressional oversight of amphibious warship requirements, Landing Ship Medium development, and the Marine Corps' transformation for distributed maritime operations.

Throughout his service, Aaron has exemplified the Marine Corps values of honor, cour-

age, and commitment. His ability to translate complex military requirements into actionable legislative priorities has strengthened the bond between Congress and our Marines, ensuring our warfighters receive the resources and support they need to defend our Nation.

I thank Major Reep for his continued dedication to Virginia's 1st District and our Nation. His service as a Marine Corps House Liaison has been marked by professionalism, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to our national defense.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Major Aaron Reep for his outstanding service as a Marine Corps House Liaison Officer. May God bless Aaron and his family as he continues his distinguished career serving our great Nation and the United States Marine Corps.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT AND CAREER OF STACEY MORTENSEN

HON. JOSH HARDER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 2025

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Congressman MARK DESAULNIER, to recognize and celebrate the retirement and career of Stacey Mortensen, whose visionary leadership has transformed public transportation across the Central Valley and Northern California.

For more than three decades, Stacey has championed investments in passenger rail that have connected communities, expanded opportunity, and laid the groundwork for a more sustainable future. As Executive Director of the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission, she led the launch of the Altamont Corridor Express—ACE—in 1998, uniting San Joaquin, Alameda, and Santa Clara Counties through a first-of-its-kind commuter rail partnership. This complex initiative required building infrastructure and relationships across three different regions, a challenge Stacey met with innovation and unwavering determination. Through her work, Stacey helped establish the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority and spearheaded the Valley Rail Program, securing nearly \$2 billion in funding and enabling major infrastructure projects such as the Stockton Diamond Grade Separation.

Under her leadership, ACE has continued to evolve to meet modern needs, including the recent launch of a specialty train service to Levi's Stadium for San Francisco 49ers games—an example of the flexible, community-responsive transit vision she has cultivated. Her efforts brought together more than 20 local and regional agencies to develop a shared vision for passenger rail in the Central Valley.

In 2024, Stacey helped launch the Rail Academy of Central California (TRACC), a critical workforce development program that prepares young people for careers in the rail industry. Her deep commitment to the next generation is reflected in this initiative, which ensures the continued success and sustainability of our region's transit systems by investing in talent right here in the Valley. What truly sets Stacey apart is her deep belief in partnership and public service. Her collaborative approach has not only built rail lines—

it has built trust across counties, cities, and communities. Thanks to her leadership, thousands of Central Valley residents now have better access to jobs, education, and opportunity.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Stacey Mortensen for her extraordinary contributions and for her steadfast commitment to the people of California's Central Valley.

HONORING FORMER FIRST SERGEANT DELPHINE METCALF-FOSTER AS ONE OF CALIFORNIA'S 8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT'S WOMEN OF THE YEAR

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 2025

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize former First Sergeant Delphine Metcalf-Foster as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year for her trailblazing military service, steadfast advocacy for veterans, and lifelong commitment to public service. A native of Vallejo, California, First Sergeant (Ret.) Delphine Metcalf-Foster proudly served in the United States Army Reserve with the 689th Quartermaster Unit, 6253rd Hospital Unit, and 6211th Transportation Unit at the Letterman Army Medical Center. During Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, she sustained injuries while serving in Saudi Arabia in support of the Grave Registration Company mission and was medically evacuated to Germany for care. Her service and courage reflect the highest traditions of the U.S. Armed Forces. Following her retirement from the Army Reserves in 1996, Ms. Metcalf-Foster continued to dedicate her life to veterans causes and public service. A life member of Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 81 in Vallejo, she made history in 2017 when she was elected National Commander of the DAV. The first woman and the first person of color to hold that position in the organization's 100-year history. She previously served as the DAV Department of California Commander in 2003, again breaking barriers as the first woman to hold that role. Her distinguished civilian career includes decades of leadership at the Alameda Naval Air Station, where she served as a quality assurance work leader. Ms. Metcalf-Foster has also lent her expertise to numerous veterans' advisory bodies, including the Secretary of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Women Veterans, the DAV Department of California Claims and Service Committee, and the First Data Military Advisory Council. Among her many honors, she has received the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal (10LC), National Defense Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, and the Southwest Asia Service Medal with Bronze Star. In 2018, she was recognized as one of the "Top 40 Military People" in the United States for her impact in helping veterans. Her favorite quotes, "Tell me what I can't do, and I will show you what I can do," and "I had to go through, in order to get to," embody the spirit of resilience and purpose that defines her life and service. On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and

recognize First Sergeant (Ret.) Delphine Metcalf-Foster for her courageous service to our nation and her extraordinary contributions to the veterans' community.

RECOGNIZING SOUTH DAKOTA SWIMMER GENA JORGENSEN FOR HER SELECTION TO THE USA SWIMMING NATIONAL TEAM

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 2025

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Gena Jorgenson of Aberdeen, South Dakota, on being named to the USA Swimming National Team in preparation for the 2028 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

A proud product of the Aberdeen Swim Club, Gena is an All-American at the University of Nebraska who has earned this honor through years of dedication, discipline, and excellence in training and competition. Her silver medal performance in the 1,500-meter freestyle at the World University Games in Germany showcased her talent on the international stage and secured her spot on Team USA.

Her journey from local pools in Aberdeen to the national stage is a testament to her determination and resilience. Gena's success reflects the best of South Dakota: hard work, humility, and perseverance. She has brought pride to her hometown, university, and entire state.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Gena Jorgenson on this remarkable achievement and wish her continued success as she represents both South Dakota and our Nation with great distinction.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF SUPERVISOR JAMES M. "JIM" HOLLAND

HON. JENNIFER L. McCLELLAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 2025

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of the Honorable James M. "Jim" Holland, who faithfully served the people of Chesterfield County's Dale District for nearly two decades before his passing on October 14, 2025. I had the honor of working closely with Jim and witnessing firsthand his deep love for and unwavering dedication to his constituents. His kindness, humility, and steadfast commitment left a lasting impression on everyone who knew him, and his influence will be felt for generations to come.

Born in Gates County, North Carolina, in 1951, Jim Holland served honorably in the U.S. Army's 18th Airborne Corps before earning degrees in accounting and business administration from Fayetteville State University and North Carolina Central University. A certified public accountant, he built a successful practice and later taught accounting for 24 years at Virginia Commonwealth University, inspiring generations of students with his belief that numbers are a tool for integrity and empowerment.

Elected in 2008, Supervisor Holland was the longest-serving member of the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors, chairing the Board in 2014, 2021, and 2024. Known for his calm and collaborative leadership, he guided the county through the Great Recession and the COVID-19 pandemic, championing strong schools, fiscal responsibility, and community investment. His dedication led to major improvements in local infrastructure and the re-naming of the Beulah Recreation Center in his honor in 2025.

Beyond his contributions in local government, he represented Chesterfield on numerous regional and state boards and was appointed by multiple Virginia governors for his expertise and judgment. Deeply rooted in his faith and community, he served as a deacon and Sunday school teacher at First Baptist Church Centralia and received the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Service Leadership Award earlier this year.

Jim Holland is survived by his wife of 52 years, Judith, and their children, Jessica and James, Chesterfield County and the Commonwealth of Virginia have lost a devoted public servant and educator whose legacy will endure in the community he helped build.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of Supervisor Jim Holland, a man guided by faith, service, and a lifelong commitment to leaving things better than he found them.

CELEBRATING 200 YEARS OF THE PORT OF GALVESTON

HON. RANDY K. WEBER, SR.

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 2025

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate a true Texas treasure, 200 years of the Port of Galveston. It is an honor to mark this historic milestone and to recognize the men and women, past and present, whose hard work, grit, and vision have made this port what it is today. I especially want to thank Rodger Rees and the Port's leadership for their stewardship of this vital gateway to the Gulf.

Mr. Speaker, I've lived on the Texas Gulf Coast my whole life. Down here, ports aren't just infrastructure, they're the backbone of our economy. Representing seven ports, more than any other Member of Congress, I know firsthand how critical they are to jobs, commerce, energy, and America's security.

The Port of Galveston is a shining example. Established on October 17, 1825, by the Congress of Mexico, it quickly became a hub of strategic importance. During the fight for Texas Independence, it served as the home of the Texas Navy, brave men who risked everything to secure freedom. That fight laid the foundation for Galveston to grow into one of the most important cities on the Gulf Coast. In 1940, the people of Galveston, proud, determined, and invested in their future, came together to purchase their port. That move secured local control and ensured the Port's place as an engine of growth for generations.

From a vital shipping center to one of the busiest cruise ports in the nation, the Port of Galveston continues to adapt and expand. This fall, a fourth cruise terminal will open,