

RECOGNIZING THE JUNIOR  
LEAGUE OF ARLINGTON: EMPOW-  
ERING WOMEN, STRENGTHENING  
COMMUNITY

**HON. MARC A. VEASEY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions and enduring legacy of the Junior League of Arlington (JLA), an organization that has been empowering women and strengthening the Arlington community for nearly five decades.

Founded on October 22, 1975, as the Service League of Arlington with 45 charter members, the organization was officially welcomed into the Association of Junior Leagues International on February 22, 1982, becoming the 248th Junior League and adopting the name Junior League of Arlington. Since that time, JLA has remained steadfast in its mission to advance women's leadership for meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training.

Over the years, the Junior League of Arlington has invested more than \$3 million and over one million volunteer hours into more than 100 local agencies. Through these efforts, the League has made a tangible difference in the lives of countless residents across North Texas. This year alone, JLA is providing \$100,000 in grants to 10 community organizations, continuing its long tradition of philanthropy and partnership.

Beyond its financial and volunteer contributions, the Junior League of Arlington's influence is seen in its enduring commitment to service and empowerment. From its collaboration with Arlington ISD on the annual Back to School Kick-off at AT&T Stadium, to its many "Done in a Day" projects, JLA consistently answers the call to serve families, women, and children in need.

As the League begins a new chapter in its new home at Wellspring on Main—The Arlington Center for Community Engagement—it reaffirms its dedication to building stronger, more inclusive communities. Through leadership training, volunteerism, and a commitment to diversity, equity, and belonging, JLA continues to shape women into leaders who create lasting, positive change.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the Junior League of Arlington for its nearly 50 years of outstanding service, leadership, and community partnership. The League's unwavering dedication to empowering women and strengthening the Arlington community stands as a model of civic engagement and compassion for us all.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE  
OF MARGARET HOPSON BROWN

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Margaret Hopson Brown, a beloved member of our community whose warmth and kindness touched the lives of many. Born on December

19, 1954, to David and Mary Hopson, Margaret lived a life rich with love, adventure, and purpose.

Margaret passed away on September 8, 2025, leaving behind a legacy of love and laughter. A Celebration of Life service was held on Saturday, September 13, 2025, at Valley Queen M.B. Church, officiated by Rev. Lesta Anderson and Rev. Dexter Davis, with interment at Booker Cemetery.

Margaret was a lifelong member of Shady Grove M.B. Church, where she served faithfully, embodying the spirit of a true servant of the Lord. Her life was a testament to her faith, as she accepted Christ at an early age and lived out her beliefs through acts of kindness and service.

Known for her ability to turn everyday moments into celebrations, Margaret's presence was a gift to all who knew her. Whether she was spinning wild stories, sharing a perfect joke, or ensuring no one left her table hungry, Margaret's warmth drew people in and made strangers feel like lifelong friends.

Margaret was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Royal Brown, Jr.; and five siblings. She leaves behind a loving family, including her four sisters, Dorothy, Frances, Brenda, and Pinky; her brother, Andrew Lee; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, and special friends, including the Class of 1970 and the Golden Hearts Social club.

Though Margaret's time with us has ended, her story lives on in every lesson taught, every memory shared, and every heart she touched. Her legacy is proof that some people never truly leave us.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Margaret Hopson Brown, whose kindness, resilience, and love will continue to inspire us all.

HONORING LISA NELSON-  
BONNINGTON AS ONE OF CALI-  
FORNIA'S 8TH CONGRESSIONAL  
DISTRICT'S WOMEN OF THE  
YEAR

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lisa Nelson-Bonnington, recognized as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year. In addition to being a prominent business leader and community advocate, Lisa currently serves as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce. With more than thirty years of experience in marketing, public relations, and organizational management, Lisa has dedicated her career to strengthening local economies and supporting small businesses across the Bay Area. Prior to her current role, she served as President and CEO of the Martinez Chamber of Commerce and as Vice President of the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce, where she championed initiatives to promote economic growth and workforce development. As an active participant in the Western Association of Chamber Executives Academy, Lisa brings both expertise and passion to her work fostering collaboration between businesses, government, and community organizations. Since

joining the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber in 2024, she has focused on expanding outreach to local entrepreneurs and strengthening partnerships that enhance economic vitality for both Fairfield and Suisun City. Lisa's work is rooted in inclusion and long-term sustainability, ensuring that every sector of the community has a voice in shaping its shared prosperity. Through her service, Lisa continues to embody integrity, innovation, and a steadfast commitment to empowering others. On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Lisa Nelson-Bonnington for her outstanding leadership and unwavering dedication to economic and community development.

HONORING BISHOP LESLIE PAT-  
TERSON, JR. AND CO-PASTOR  
DR. FRANCENE PATTERSON

**HON. SUHAS SUBRAMANYAM**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Bishop Leslie Patterson, Jr. and Co-Pastor Dr. Francene Patterson on the occasion of their 30th Pastoral Anniversary at First Baptist Church.

Under their leadership and guidance, First Baptist Church has grown into a flourishing ministry rooted in service, fellowship, and community. Together, they have transformed lives, strengthened families, and built a legacy grounded in compassion, responsibility, and faith.

Bishop and Co-Pastor Patterson have shown exceptional dedication to the Northern Virginia community through their ministry's outreach and impact. They have nurtured over one hundred children through the church's childcare center, provided food assistance to more than 5,000 families through the Manna from Heaven Food Pantry, and hosted a COVID-19 vaccine clinic during a time of great need. Their partnerships with small and minority-owned businesses, schools, nonprofits, and civic organizations have created lasting connections that continue to uplift lives across the region.

Mr. Speaker, Bishop Leslie Patterson, Jr. and Co-Pastor Dr. Francene Patterson exemplify what it means to lead with faith and purpose. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on this milestone anniversary and commending their outstanding service to their congregation and the broader community.

THANKING NOAH WOFSY FOR HIS  
SERVICE TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES

**HON. BRYAN STEIL**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Ranking Member MORELLE and myself, I kindly ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Noah Wofsy on his retirement as Deputy Legislative Counsel after 39 years of service to the House of Representatives. Noah joined the House Office of Legislative Counsel in 1986 after

earning his J.D. from the University of Southern California. I have had the good fortune of working with Noah in his capacity supporting the Committee on House Administration and the Subcommittee on Modernization and Innovation.

Noah has served as the Deputy House Legislative Counsel since 2018, helping lead the office and manage a committed team of experts to provide the House with impartial and confidential drafting and counseling services for bills, amendments, resolutions, and laws.

Throughout his career in the House of Representatives, Noah has lent his unmatched expertise to countless Members, committees, and staff working on a broad array of policy issues. The Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress relied heavily on Noah's institutional knowledge and ideas when making recommendations to modernize the House's outdated processes and technologies for legislative drafting. He was also instrumental in leading the effort last Congress to modernize leadership roles and succession planning in the Office of the Legislative Counsel. While Noah's service over the years has benefited the House in many ways, his dedication to teaching staff the art of legislative drafting has left an indelible and lasting mark on this institution. Teaching is a talent that Noah exemplifies as thousands of current and former House staffers will attest.

While Noah has been recognized by friends and colleagues for his steadfast commitment to public service and his expertise in the legislative drafting process, it is his unparalleled sense of humor that truly sets him apart. Over the course of his nearly four decades of service, the House saw a lot of change. Noah's ability to constantly adapt and consistently excel—all while maintaining his sense of humor—is a bold testament to his dedication to the House of Representatives and the people it serves. I wish Noah the best for his well-earned retirement.

On behalf of my colleagues and the entire House community, I thank him for his leadership and longstanding commitment to serving the People's House.

**HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL  
BRENDA STRENGTH AS ONE OF  
CALIFORNIA'S 8TH CONGRES-  
SIONAL DISTRICT'S WOMEN OF  
THE YEAR**

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Lt. Col. Brenda Strength as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year for her exceptional leadership, operational excellence, and dedicated service to both the United States Air Force and the Northern California community. Lt. Col. Strength leads a team of 372 military and civilian personnel in managing the Air Mobility Command's largest logistics portfolio, valued at over \$983 million. Under her leadership, her unit executed over 58,000 passenger movements and transported more than 5 million pounds of cargo, while simultaneously planning and executing 12 high-priority Presi-

dential support missions, mobilizing 123 personnel across 22 locations in less than 24 hours. She played a pivotal role in finalizing a 15-year modernization effort involving the transfer of 3,000 legacy weapons systems across three wings. Through innovative joint training with the U.S. Marine Corps, she established three cross-service exercises and embedded 25 Air Force reservists into five critical logistics functions, enhancing operational readiness and joint interoperability. Her logistical acumen led to major advancements: a 30 percent reduction in overdue parts in the "Due In From Maintenance" program, a 15 percent increase in Specialized Fueling qualifications, and the resolution of a vital Base Exchange agreement benefiting over 135,000 members of the Travis AFB community. Further demonstrating her strategic foresight, Lt. Col. Strength oversaw a zero-cost warehouse floor plan redesign that consolidated 124 locations for 11,000 line items, resolved 132 asset discrepancies, and bolstered the Air Force's largest mobility account. Her innovation directly enabled a 26 percent increase in qualified aircrew by resolving a 9-month gap in hot refuel kit certification. Beyond her military service, Lt. Col. Strength has strengthened community bonds by encouraging squadron engagement in local volunteerism, including youth mentorship, highway cleanups, STEM and robotics initiatives, and support for local athletics and the arts. Her commitment to community partnerships highlights the Air Force's enduring connection to the people it serves. On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Lt. Col. Brenda Strength for her invaluable contributions to our community.

**HONORING NATIONAL  
IMMIGRANTS DAY**

**HON. ED CASE**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express gratitude and support for our Nation's vibrant immigrant community on this National Immigrants Day.

Every October 28th, we recognize and celebrate the contributions of immigrants—born citizens of another country—to our United States. Our Nation stands as the country with the most immigrants in the world: over 52 million in 2024, or about 15 percent of our overall population. Throughout our history immigrants have made, and today continue to make, invaluable contributions to our country, including invigorating our economy and sharing their unique cultures to enrich the fabric of our society.

Nowhere is this truer than in my Hawaii, where so many are themselves immigrants or descended from immigrants. Hawaii is home today to 256,000 immigrants, or about 18 percent of our total population—ranking us 8th in the Nation. Immigrants have been central to the history and culture of Hawaii for centuries, from being the backbone of our labor force in Hawaii's earlier agricultural industries in sugar and pineapple, to now making up 22 percent of our labor force and a disproportionately large share of our vital hospitality and health

care industries as well as our dominant small businesses. Our distinctive multicultural identity, from "pidgin" to fusion foods like spam musubi, meat jun and sainin, to our distinctly local music and way of life, have been uniquely shaped by our immigrant 'ohana.

Nationally, the immigrant experience then and now has strengthened our country immeasurably in equally multiple ways. In pure economic terms alone, in 2022 immigrants generated some \$1.6 trillion in economic activity and contributed more than \$579 billion in local, state and federal taxes, and today millions of American workers are employed at immigrant-founded and immigrant-owned companies. Immigration is and will increasingly be essential to meeting workplace demand. Our immigrant communities maintain ties to their countries of origin and thus strengthen our Nation's indispensable international bonds.

At a time when too many immigrant communities here and elsewhere are being unfairly targeted and villainized, it is more important than ever that we recognize, celebrate and extend our support to our dynamic, diverse and thriving immigrant community and thank all immigrants for your belief in and contributions to our country. Mahalo.

**RECOGNIZING 100 YEARS OF THE  
MANHEIM LIONS CLUB**

**HON. LLOYD SMUCKER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate and recognize the Manheim Lions Club for their 100th anniversary.

Located in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, the Manheim Lions Club is a dedicated community partner, exemplifying the Lions International motto of "We Serve" since their chartering in 1925. The club is heavily involved in youth activities, sponsoring a 14U baseball team and the Cub Scouts, and presenting educational awards to local students. It also runs programs that support vision care, such as an eyeglasses drive, and engages in a variety of community service and humanitarian relief efforts.

These efforts are supported through Easter egg hunts, 5K races, broom sales, and food stands at the Manheim Farm Show. This does not include past traditions like car shows at the football field and plastic boat races on the creek. Ultimately, the money raised within the community is reinvested back into the community.

The Manheim Lions are currently led by Club President Aaron Henderson. They are one of 49,000 Lions clubs across 200 countries and regions, and Lions Club International boasts 1.4 million members worldwide.

As the Manheim Lions Club celebrates 100 years of community service, I would like to thank the club and its members for their longstanding record of selflessness. Their efforts have made Pennsylvania's 11th Congressional District a better place, and I wish them another century of positive impact.