

health care, leaving an enduring legacy at Denton County MHMR and across the state of Texas. It is an honor to celebrate her 30 years of dedicated service and her profound contributions to the advancement of mental health.

THANKING DEREK HARLEY FOR
HIS SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I kindly ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Derek N. Harley for his 25 years of service in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Derek began his career on Capitol Hill as a Legislative Assistant with Representative Walley Herger of California, later serving as his Legislative Director and then his Chief of Staff. Following Congressman Herger's retirement, Derek served as Chief of Staff to Representative Brad Wenstrup of Ohio. As Chief, Derek was known for prioritizing first-in-class constituent services, a focus he has maintained throughout his career in the House.

After a short time off the Hill, Derek returned to the House as the Republican Staff Director of the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress. In this position, he saw an opportunity to strengthen Congress's Article I obligations and create positive and lasting institutional change. The Select Committee had what Derek called "squeaky wheel authority" to call attention to longstanding problems and challenges for the House, and he used that authority to relentlessly pursue solutions. His insistence on working with House partners and colleagues across-the-aisle to forge change and strengthen this institution for the better will benefit generations of Members and staff to come. We can all learn a lot from his example.

At the start of the 118th Congress, the Committee on House Administration turned to Derek to Lead the newly constituted Subcommittee on Modernization. Quite frankly, there was no one better suited for this position than Derek. His institutional expertise, his proven leadership skills, and his unwavering dedication to the House and the people it serves made him the obvious—and only—choice to serve as the Subcommittee's inaugural Staff Director. Under the leadership of Subcommittee Chairwoman STEPHANIE BICE of Oklahoma, Derek worked to create new, and much-needed, collaborative workspaces for staff across the House Office Buildings, improve ADA access to the House and the Capitol, streamline the transfer of constituent casework to incoming members of Congress, provide House committees with access to industry-standard e-Discovery software, institute positive change at the Congressional Research Service, and provide more opportunities for Members to engage with their constituents. These are just a few examples of the many contributions Derek has made to this institution.

At the start of the 119th Congress, Derek joined Speaker MIKE JOHNSON's team as Director of House Operations, where he's worked hand-in-glove with my team on House Administration to meet critical campus needs, formalize longstanding policies for House of-

fices, and think strategically about the House's future physical space needs. Derek has always remained open to ideas and solutions and is committed to finding the best path forward for the institution in service to its Members, staff, and the taxpayer.

I am fortunate to have worked with Derek and know he will be missed by many House Members and staff. Derek has been a consummate steward of the institution and a willing partner to everyone who wants the House to work well for the American people. He has already had a lasting and positive impact on the institution and, through his example, has inspired others to continue this work.

On behalf of my colleagues and staff on the Committee on House Administration, I wish Derek Harley all the best as he begins his new role as the Chief Executive Officer of the Congressional Institute. I thank him for his service to the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING REVEREND BRITISH
CONLEY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend British Conley.

Reverend British Conley, a native of Lambert, Mississippi, was born to the late Robert Gross, Sr. and the late Gertrude Conley. He is a distinguished United States Navy veteran who served honorably on active duty from 1998 to 2002, followed by four additional years in the United States Navy Reserve from 2002 to 2006. His military service instilled in him the values of duty, integrity, and perseverance—principles that have guided his lifelong commitment to service. Following his time in the Navy, he continued to serve his state and community as a Correctional Officer at the Mississippi State Penitentiary, where he worked diligently for four years to uphold safety and order.

A 1997 graduate of Madison Shannon Palmer High School—formerly Quitman County High School—Reverend Conley demonstrated resilience and determination early in life. His perseverance was recognized when he received the Against All Odds Award and a Scholarship from Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Science in Public Administration from Mississippi Valley State University in Itta Bena, Mississippi. His passion for education and leadership led him to the University of Mississippi, where he achieved multiple advanced degrees: a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Special Education, an Educational Specialist Degree in Curriculum and Instruction, and a Specialist Degree in K–12 Educational Leadership.

Beyond his academic and professional accomplishments, Reverend Conley is a servant-leader in both education and faith. He continues to impact lives as an educational leader and as Pastor of Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church in Belen, Mississippi. His ministry and career embody his belief in building stronger communities through faith, education, and service.

He has been blessed in life and love, married to his high school sweetheart, Mrs. Terry Lashell Geter-Conley, for 17 years. Mrs. Conley is an accomplished entrepreneur and owner of Sweetie's Home Event and Décor. Together, they find joy and renewal through their shared passion for camping, traveling, and nurturing their garden.

From Lambert, Mississippi, to the U.S. Navy, to the classroom, and to the pulpit, Reverend Conley's life reflects resilience, faith, and the transformative power of service, leadership, and love.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Reverend British Conley for his dedication and service to the State of Mississippi and the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING MR. KONRAD
KROSZNER'S 16 YEARS WITH THE
PENNSYLVANIA BIOTECHNOLOGY
CENTER AND BARUCH S.
BLUMBERG INSTITUTE

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary individual from my district, Mr. Konrad Kroszner, the Director of Operations and Director of Systems and Engineering at the Pennsylvania Biotechnology Center and Baruch S. Blumberg Institute. Today, I proudly commend him on his well-earned retirement, following 16 years of dedicated work to furthering education and research in our community.

As the Director of Operations and Director of Systems and Engineering, Mr. Kroszner has been a driving force behind maintenance and improvement for the Pennsylvania Biotechnology Center and Baruch S. Blumberg Institute. In his pursuit of ensuring the safe operations of the campus, he led two expansions during his tenure that improved infrastructure for the biotech research teams, bringing old lab spaces up to code to ensure that the latest safety and technical requirements were being met.

Through Mr. Kroszner's tireless efforts, the researchers of my district are better able to apply their technical knowledge through their research in a safe and secure manner. He took personal pride in his work, spearheading the smallest aspects of both the construction and system-engineering aspects down to the minute details.

Konrad's work has not gone unnoticed. His expansion efforts and day-to-day care for the facilities have led the Pennsylvania Biotechnology Center to become a world-class biotechnology center, aiding institutions such as the Hepatitis B Foundation and Baruch S. Blumberg Institute in their mission of curing disease such as Hepatitis B and Liver Cancer.

Mr. Kroszner began his career at the United States Naval Academy, where he graduated in 1977 with a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering. He spent the next 10 years of his career as an engineer with the Naval Air Warfare Center in Trenton where he supported naval aviation fuel related issues, managed military specifications for fuel contamination detection devices and components, and provided emergency support for U.S. Navy fleet operations.

Beyond these contributions, he has left behind him a legacy of technical knowledge, care, and dedication to his work. Mr. Kroszner's work will continue to be a force for good in not only the Pennsylvania Biotechnology Center, but our Nation through the world class facilities he helped to improve that will continue to empower researchers long after his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Konrad Kroszner on his retirement and thank him for 16 years of dedicated work to the Pennsylvania Biotechnology Center and Baruch S. Blumberg Institute. His leadership and dedication are sure to leave a lasting mark on the community.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT GARY SINGLETON

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Mr. Gary Singleton of Bowie County, Texas, and to present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Gary has dedicated his life to faithfully serving his community and country.

Born in Texarkana, Texas, Gary attended school in the Texarkana and Liberty-Eylau districts before pursuing higher education at Texarkana College, Texas A&M Commerce, and Texas A&M—Texarkana, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Business with a minor in computer science. In 1990, he married the love of his life, Lisa Singleton, with whom he has shared many pets, memories, and accomplishments.

After graduating, Gary began his professional career at the Lone Star Army Ammunition Plant, where he served for 26 years, advancing from IT Programmer to Senior Systems Analyst and ultimately Manager of IT Operations. He later worked for Alcoa Inc. as Site Conversion and Development Lead, overseeing software conversions, and for Cooper Tire and Rubber Company as a Systems Analyst. Gary applied his expertise in healthcare technology at the Collom & Carney Clinic in Texarkana and Willis Knighton Health System in Shreveport, Louisiana, before returning to Collom & Carney Clinic, where he is currently employed.

Beyond his professional career, Gary has demonstrated exceptional dedication to civic and political engagement. Beginning in the 1980's, he served as Precinct Chair, later Vice Chairman, and ultimately Chairman of the Bowie County Republican Party. He served for over 15 years as a Board Member and Vice President of the Bowie County Republicans PAC and held leadership roles with the National Management Association—LSAAP Chapter. Among his proudest achievements, Gary was honored as a Presidential Elector from Texas' 1st Congressional District in 2024, casting his vote for Donald J. Trump in the Texas House of Representatives Chamber in Austin.

Gary Singleton's lifelong commitment to his community, his profession, and his Nation truly exemplifies what it means to be a patriot. It is an honor to recognize his exceptional con-

tributions and to present him with the Congressional Patriot Award in appreciation of his steadfast service to the people of Bowie County and the United States of America.

HONORING COLONEL WILLIAM W. BUTLER AS VIRGINIA'S 4TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT'S 2025 VETERAN OF THE YEAR

HON. JENNIFER L. McCLELLAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel William Woodard Butler, an extraordinary Virginian and the 2025 Veteran of the Year for Virginia's 4th Congressional District. Colonel Butler is an outstanding choice for this honor, having devoted his entire military career to saving and improving the lives of our service members and advancing research in surgery, tropical medicine, hyperbaric medicine, and aerospace medicine.

Colonel Butler has logged over 980 flight hours, including more than 65 hours in combat, and completed two overseas deployments, one to Okinawa and another to Qatar. He concluded his distinguished military career as a Professor of Aerospace Medicine at the United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, earning the Air Force's special experience identifier of Clinical/Academic Grandmaster in both Hyperbaric and Aerospace Medicine.

Internationally recognized for his groundbreaking work in altitude-induced decompression sickness and aeromedical evacuation, Colonel Butler's research has directly improved the safety and survivability of critically ill and injured service members during transport. His contributions have had a lasting, positive impact on the Department of Defense and have almost certainly reduced the overall transport morbidity for tens of thousands of casualties.

Colonel Butler's exemplary service has earned him national and international recognition. In 2019, he was inducted into the National Air and Space Museum's Wall of Honor. In 2022, he received the Aerospace Medical Association's prestigious John Ernsting Award, and in 2024, he was honored with the Chesterfield Education Foundation's BRAVO Award.

Following more than 30 years of combined active duty and reserve service, Colonel Butler continued his dedication to the mission as an Aerospace Medicine Consultant to the Air Force for an additional decade. He has authored over 150 publications, including 29 peer-reviewed articles, 39 peer-reviewed abstracts, and 23 proceedings, technical reports, and textbook chapters, culminating in a definitive 200-page monograph on the safe aeromedical evacuation of critically ill and injured casualties.

Beyond his remarkable professional achievements, Colonel Butler has remained deeply involved in his community. He serves as a Trustee for the John Randolph Foundation, a member of the Hopewell City Planning Commission, and an active congregant at the Family of God Church in Chesterfield. He also helped establish a permanently endowed scholarship for students in Chesterfield, Hope-

well, and Prince George pursuing medical careers and is an engaged member of the William and Mary Alumni Book Club in Richmond.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Butler's legacy of service, both in uniform and in his community, embodies the best of Virginia's 4th Congressional District. His lifelong commitment to science, service, and community betterment stands as an inspiration to us all. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Colonel Butler on being named the 2025 Veteran of the Year and in thanking him for his decades of exemplary service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING VALERIE PREHODA ON HER INDUCTION INTO THE MICHIGAN TECH PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL OF ALUMNAE

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Valerie Prehoda for being inducted into the Michigan Tech Presidential Council of Alumnae. This well-deserved honor reflects her steadfast dedication to her fellow Servicemembers, the communities throughout the Upper Peninsula, and our Nation.

Ms. Prehoda graduated from Michigan Tech in 1983 with a Bachelor of Science in Social Sciences, concentrating on archaeology. To help pay her way through school, she worked at the university's copper mine while remaining engaged in many extracurricular activities. She was a member of the soccer, gymnastics, and women's hockey teams while also participating in MTU Aquanauts and assisting in SCUBA instruction.

Following her graduation in 1983, Ms. Prehoda was accepted into the United States Marine Corps as an officer. After 10 years of active duty, she was transferred to the reserves, where she served as museum director and Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act coordinator for the Cocopah tribe in Arizona. In 2001, Ms. Prehoda was redeployed following the invasion of Iraq. There she completed two combat tours, surviving a missile attack in northern Kuwait in March 2003, and retired at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 2016 after 30 years of civil and military service.

Throughout her distinguished career, Ms. Prehoda received a plethora of awards and commendations, including, but not limited to, a Joint Service Achievement Medal, a Navy Unit Commendation with a bronze star, a Meritorious Unit Commendation, a Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and a Presidential Unit Citation for OIF combat support. Upon retiring, Ms. Prehoda continues to serve her country through memberships in various Veteran organizations such as the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Marine Corps League, and many more.

Mr. Speaker, let us all join in recognizing Valerie Prehoda for receiving the prestigious honor of being inducted into the Michigan Tech Presidential Council of Alumnae. I thank her for her enduring commitment to Veterans, her community, and our great country.