

Since 1851, the St. James Catholic Church community has served the residents of Elizabethtown and the surrounding area. In 1852, the first church was constructed, and twenty years later, St. Mary's Academy was established to educate the parish children by the Sisters of Loretto. Eventually being renamed after the church's patron saint, St. James School continues to serve parish families, providing a religious-based education. Seeing continued growth, the parish eventually constructed a high school, which still operates today as Elizabethtown Catholic High School.

In 1969, the parish broke ground on a new church, which was completed in 1971. Since then, the parish has continued to expand its missionary work in the surrounding community. Saint James Catholic Church has proven to be a place where families can flourish in faith and fellowship. I am proud to recognize their incredible 175 years of commitment to faith, education, and service in their community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LIZZIE FLETCHER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2025

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, on November 17, 2025, a flight delay caused me to miss Roll Call votes No. 286 and No. 287. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 286, and YEA on Roll Call No. 287.

HONORING KILGORE'S DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. NATHANIEL MORAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2025

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kilgore's Daughters of the American Revolution.

250 years ago, brave warriors fought for a republic founded on freedom and liberty. How remarkable is it that each of them came from individuals and families who fought for the country we call home today.

The mission their ancestors started is not over. For 135 years, Daughters of the American Revolution have played a vital role in preserving history and encouraging patriotism across the country.

In Kilgore, they have gone above and beyond to continue the legacy of our Nation through educational initiatives and supporting our veterans.

As we approach the 250th anniversary of America, their work is more pertinent now than ever before. Leading up to the founding of America, their ancestors stood their ground, wrestled with the weight of liberty, and lit the spark that would give birth to the greatest Nation the world has ever known. Our Nation is grateful for those brave men and women, their sacrifices, and the unwavering commitment to the founding of our Nation.

Now, through their impact, East Texans and Americans will be reminded of this service and patriotism.

I look forward to their participation in America 250—a nationwide event, with real com-

munity impact. I am grateful for their service to our community and our country. God Bless Kilgore, and God Bless the United States of America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL A. RULLI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2025

Mr. RULLI. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 303; and YEA on Roll Call No. 304.

HONORING ANNIE CLARKSON

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2025

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Annie Clarkson for her work as an intern, serving in my D.C. office. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her hard work and recognize the meaningful contributions she has made to the office this fall.

Interns work with staff to serve constituents in North Carolina's 11th congressional district. Annie was chosen from a competitive pool of applicants and exceeded every expectation with her positive attitude and impressive work ethic. It was a pleasure to work with Annie, and I am so proud to have had such an intelligent and ambitious intern representing my office.

Annie resides in Washington, D.C. and is a recent graduate of the University of Richmond. Annie is entering a position with a market research firm, where she will be working as a Business Development Representative.

Annie exemplified the spirit of public service and represents the best that our Nation has to offer. I congratulate Annie on the successful completion of her internship and thank her on behalf of the people of Western North Carolina.

CELEBRATING THE PRESIDENT AND C.E.O. OF THE GREATER OWENSBORO CHAMBER OF COM- MERCE, CANDANCE CASTLEN BRAKE

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2025

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Candance Castlen Brake on her retirement as President and CEO of the Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce.

For decades, Candance has been a staple in the community, working to bring new investments and opportunities to the City of Owensboro and Daviess County. Before serving as President and CEO of the Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce, she served our community as the Deputy Judge Executive for Daviess County, a government professor at Western Kentucky University, and on various boards and commissions. She also

served three terms as an Owensboro City Commissioner from 2004 to 2010.

Since taking charge of the Owensboro Chamber of Commerce as President and CEO in 2015, Candance has played a pivotal role in the growth and success. Under her leadership, the city has seen tremendous growth, the transformation of the Owensboro Riverfront, and so much more. Her efforts have, without a doubt, contributed to the success we see in Owensboro today.

Since first coming to Congress, I have had the honor of getting to know and work with Candance on many occasions. She has been an incredible partner to support the residents of Daviess County and Owensboro. Again, I thank Candance for her dedicated service to our community, and I wish her well in her well-earned retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2025

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, due to an unforeseen circumstance, I missed a vote on H.R. 3109, the REFINER Act. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 303.

RECOGNIZING DR. JON COZEAN

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2025

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Jon Cozean of Farmington, Missouri. Dr. Cozean, a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, died November 11, 2025, at the age of 87.

Jon was a lifelong learner. He started a radio station. He studied journalism at the University of Missouri, earned a master's degree from George Washington University and a doctorate in international relations from the American University. He worked for the New York Times at its Washington D.C. bureau. It was the sudden death of his father in 1985 that brought Jon back to Farmington to lead the family business. He was a fourth-generation owner of Cozean Memorial Chapel and was inducted into the National Funeral Directors Association Hall of Excellence.

He was a man of quiet dignity, sincere kindness, and genuine interest in people. Jon was a fixture at community events. He invested in his hometown in a variety of ways from taking photos of the high school football games to teaching at Mineral Area College to serving as Mr. Country Days in 2018. Jon was best known for his passion for local history. He loved to share details about the Farmington community with audiences who came to appreciate their heritage more because of the way Jon brought their hometown story to life.

Dr. Jon Cozean is part of the fabric of Farmington. He leaves a legacy of caring that's exemplified by the many lives he touched. I join with the Farmington community in mourning his loss but celebrating his life of service today before the United States House of Representatives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SETH MOULTON

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2025

Mr. MOULTON. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present on November 20, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 303 and NAY on Roll Call No. 304.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JAMES M. "JIM" BERNHARD

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2025

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, the state of Louisiana recently lost a visionary leader and titan of industry whose impact was profound, far-reaching, and enduring. James M. "Jim" Bernhard dedicated his life to advancing opportunity, strengthening communities, and demonstrating what determined, principled leadership can achieve. Though his accomplishments in business and public service were vast, his most meaningful legacy is found in the countless lives he improved and the deep affection he held for the people of Louisiana.

Jim Bernhard was born on April 9, 1954, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. From an early age he showed the traits that would define his lifelong service to his home state: energy, intellect, and a steadfast commitment to community. A proud graduate of Louisiana State University, Jim combined his entrepreneurial drive with a disciplined work ethic to build one of the most successful industrial enterprises in the Nation.

He founded The Shaw Group and guided it from a small pipe-fabrication business in Baton Rouge into a Fortune 500 global industrial services firm. Under his leadership, the company grew to employ thousands and to serve major sectors including energy, engineering, and construction. Jim's deft vision transformed The Shaw Group into a major economic engine for Louisiana, creating jobs, attracting investment, and elevating the state's prominence in national and international markets.

After the sale of The Shaw Group, Jim continued to innovate and lead. He co-founded Bernhard Capital Partners, an internationally recognized private-equity firm managing billions of dollars in assets with investments in energy services, industrial operations, and utility infrastructure. Through this transformative work, he continued to strengthen critical industries, support innovation, and expand economic opportunities across Louisiana and beyond.

Jim's extraordinary professional achievements were matched only by his deep commitment to civic life. He was a trusted mentor to many young leaders and a steadfast supporter of numerous charitable, cultural, and educational causes. His philanthropy played a defining role in the revitalization of downtown Baton Rouge through his pivotal support of the Shaw Center for the Arts, a landmark institution that continues to enrich the region's cultural landscape.

He was a champion for education at every level, frequently advocating for stronger invest-

ment in both K-12 schools and higher education. Jim's generosity made significant financial support possible for schools and students throughout the Baton Rouge area, and his advocacy helped strengthen public understanding of the critical link between education, workforce development, and long-term state prosperity.

Jim's compassion reached far beyond Louisiana's borders. He provided vital assistance to communities recovering from hurricanes in North Carolina, supported a nonprofit organization in California dedicated to assisting people experiencing homelessness, and contributed to relief efforts throughout the United States, the Caribbean, and other regions across the globe. His philanthropy was often quiet and unpublicized, guided by a belief that those blessed with success have a duty to help those in need.

At the center of Jim's life was his family. He was a devoted husband to his beloved wife, Dana, and a proud father to his five children: Benjamin Bernhard, Michael Bernhard, Patrick Bernhard, Kathryn Gerry, and Tres Bernhard. He was equally proud to be the grandfather of eight grandchildren, each of whom brought him tremendous joy and inspiration.

Jim Bernhard's unwavering love for Louisiana, his commitment to public service, and his conviction that the state's potential is limitless will continue to shape the region for generations to come. His legacy is one of leadership, generosity, innovation, and hope—a legacy that will forever enrich the state he cherished and the people for whom he worked tirelessly.

Louisiana deeply mourns the loss of Jim Bernhard, honors his remarkable life, and celebrates the enduring impact he leaves behind.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MAMMOTH CAVE PARK ASSOCIATION

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2025

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate an extraordinary milestone of the Mammoth Cave Park Association. Today, we are celebrating not only 100 years of the Association, but a century of guardianship, protection, and partnership. The Mammoth Cave Park Association ensures one of the world's greatest natural wonders remains preserved and protected. Mammoth Cave is the longest known cave system in the world, with over 400 miles surveyed to date.

Mammoth Cave is more than just a place, it is a testament to Kentucky's history. This natural wonder has inspired people for thousands of years, playing a foundational role in the culture of our region. Established as a National Park in 1941, it hosts incredible amounts of biodiversity and history. 40 years later, the park was named a World Heritage Site, and in 1990 a Biosphere Reserve. It encompasses approximately 52,830 acres in Hart, Edmonson, and Barren counties in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The Mammoth Cave Park Association is deeply woven into the identity of our Commonwealth. It has witnessed thousands of years of

human history from its discovery to the visitors that walk its passages today. To continue preservation of this national treasure, Senator McCONNELL and I introduced the bicameral Mammoth Cave National Park Boundary Adjustment Act to provide the park the ability to acquire an additional 551.14 acres of land from the Nature Conservancy. This newly acquired land would enhance protection in the Green River watershed, further conserving the area's wildlife and cultural heritage while generating additional tourism to Kentucky's 2nd District. I am proud to have introduced the Mammoth Cave National Park Boundary Adjustment Act to expand protection for the cave system's important biodiversity and rich history, ensuring that it can be studied, maintained, and enjoyed by future generations of Americans.

From funding projects to community engagement, the Mammoth Cave Park Association has been a cornerstone of Mammoth Cave's success, thanks to the dedication of countless individuals who continue giving their time and heart to this cause. Their dedication is not overlooked, and we appreciate their hard work. They have helped ensure that both the cave and Kentucky's history are protected for future generations to come.

TRIBUTE TO DUANE R. ROBERTS

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2025

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to my good friend, a visionary entrepreneur, civic leader, and philanthropist, Duane Roberts, who passed away on Saturday, November 1, 2025. Duane was a dedicated leader in Riverside County, and he will be deeply missed.

Duane was born and raised in Riverside, California. His parents, Harry and Mary Roberts, instilled in him the values of hard work and generosity. Duane graduated from Riverside Polytechnic High School, where he competed on the swim team and participated in the ROTC. He ultimately joined the family business—meat provider Butcher Boy—after high school, in addition to serving his country in the Army National Guard. Duane keenly identified an economic opportunity and seized on it by developing the frozen burrito. After surging into popularity, the frozen burrito propelled Butcher Boy Food Products into the world's largest frozen Mexican food manufacturer before the company was sold by Duane.

In 1992, Duane launched himself into a challenge that has forever changed downtown Riverside. By acquiring the Historic Mission Inn, he took on a rescue and restoration project of epic proportions. Duane's vision and determination have transformed the Mission Inn into a jewel and world-renowned destination that has hosted presidents, dignitaries, and guests from across the world. Together with his wife, Kelly, the Roberts established the Historic Mission Inn Hotel & Spa's Festival of Lights, which has become one of the most cherished holiday season traditions in the region.

Duane, a lifelong philanthropist, established the Mary S. Roberts Foundation in honor of his mother, supporting children and families in