

vision of his father, Pastor Darius Pridgen. As a licensed and ordained minister of the Gospel, Pastor Pridgen embodies the belief that we are all called to be servants of the Lord. His passion for service resonates throughout the Western New York, and his leadership inspires parishioners and visitors of True Bethel Baptist Church to grow in faith and unity.

Pastor Pridgen is supported by his beloved wife, the Honorable Judge JaHarr Pridgen. Together, they have formed a family grounded in faith with the addition of their two blessed children: Jordin and Journey. Their marriage exemplifies the strength found in a family that prays and worships together. Pastor Pridgen has made a priority of reaching out to his community, serving as a mentor and advocate for youth, adults, and our most vulnerable community members through his role as a Senior Community Advisor and Chaplain at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center.

As we celebrate a decade and a half of Pastor Pridgen's unwavering dedication, let us recognize the countless lives he has touched and the profound impact he has made at True Bethel Baptist Church and beyond. I congratulate Pastor Pridgen on this significant milestone. His service is a blessing, and we look forward to many more years of his inspired leadership.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JEFFERSON SHREVE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 3, 2025*

Mr. SHREVE. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 305, H. Con. Res. 58.

#### RECOGNIZING THE ELEVEN NEW-EST EAGLE SCOUTS FROM TROOP 407

#### HON. SUSIE LEE

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 3, 2025*

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous achievement of eleven young men from Troop 407 in Las Vegas who will receive their Eagle Scout Awards simultaneously on December 6, 2025. This event marks only the second time nationally, and the first in Las Vegas, that a troop has achieved such a feat.

These young men are setting the example of what Scouts and young people can achieve. It is not easy to earn the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout—one must persevere through years of hard work, demonstrate strong leadership, and dedicate countless hours of service to others.

The Scout Motto is "Be Prepared" and becoming an Eagle Scout is one of the best ways for a young person to prepare for a life of service and leadership in their community. Las Vegas is proud to have raised these boys into young leaders, and we are looking forward to seeing what all eleven of them become in the years ahead.

I commend the hard work, dedication, and achievement of Jacob Bennett, Cannon Cas-

tor, Ethan Dastrup, Christian Earl, Jackson Hedin, Nixon Hunt, Jack Hyer, Issac Koval, Seth Leedom, Michael Norton, and Luke Robinson. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing their achievement.

#### RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE BRIAN KULPA

#### HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 3, 2025*

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Honorable Brian Kulpa, Supervisor of the Town of Amherst, and a man whose influence can be seen and felt throughout the Western New York community by colleagues and community members alike.

As a Western New York native, Supervisor Kulpa graduated from St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute and later obtained his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Architecture and Urban and Regional Planning from SUNY Buffalo. Supervisor Kulpa has more than a quarter-century of experience as an architect and urban planner, previously serving as a senior associate, architect, and planner at a local Western New York firm. Supervisor Kulpa later established his own company, Waves Architecture and Engineering, of which he serves as Principal Architect.

Supervisor Kulpa's career has been a testament to his love for our community. Supervisor Kulpa served as Mayor of the Village of Williamsville from 2012 through the end of 2017, and played a vital role in the village's day-to-day operations, acting as a liaison between the Village of Williamsville and residents. Due to Kulpa's tenacity and vision, the Village of Williamsville was awarded \$11 million in state and federal funding to focus on enhancements of the Main Street Corridor. This investment led to community and infrastructure projects that will be enjoyed by residents and visitors for decades to come.

In 2017, Kulpa was elected Amherst Town Supervisor, where he has helped transform the Town of Amherst into a center of economic prosperity. Supervisor Kulpa has prioritized investments in neighborhood revitalization projects, economic development, parks and recreation, and transportation and infrastructure. With a focus on leveraging existing spaces within the town, Supervisor Kulpa has worked to make the town a vibrant community with a thriving economy.

As we acknowledge the incredible service of the Honorable Brian Kulpa, let us recognize his dedicated career as a public servant to the Village of Williamsville and the Town of Amherst. Supervisor Kulpa's leadership is truly exemplary, and the impact of his service will be seen, felt, and heard for generations to come, leaving our community stronger and better.

HONORING MARCUS D. YOUNG AND H.F. YOUNG TRANSPORTATION, INC.

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 3, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Marcus D. Young, whose vision, perseverance, and family legacy have transformed H.F. Young Transportation, Inc. into a leading provider of non-emergency medical transportation across the southern United States.

Fifteen years ago, Mr. Young and his wife, Mrs. Toni Wright-Young, founded the company in honor of his grandfather, Harry Young, Sr. What began as a tribute has grown into one of the largest and most trusted non-emergency medical transportation providers in Mississippi, with operations extending into Alabama, Louisiana, and Arkansas.

Under Mr. Young's leadership, H.F. Young Transportation has become known for its reliability, professionalism, and deep commitment to serving vulnerable populations. The company provides safe and accessible transportation for seniors, individuals with disabilities, and others in need of medical care. With a fleet of specialized vehicles and a dedicated staff trained in safety and compassion, the company saves thousands of clients each year—offering both logistical excellence and a personal touch rooted in community care.

Although its reach spans multiple states, H.F. Young Transportation remains deeply connected to Yazoo City, Mississippi, where Mr. Young's family and values were shaped. He continues to give back to his community while expanding the company's services and exploring new innovations to improve healthcare access and mobility across the region.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Marcus D. Young for his leadership, his dedication to service, and his remarkable success in building H.F. Young Transportation, Inc. into both a thriving business and a vital community resource.

#### CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF HAZEL CHANDLER

#### HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 3, 2025*

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember Hazel Chandler, a tireless advocate for public health and the environment, who passed away last month at the age of 80.

For nearly six decades, Hazel devoted her life to cleaner air, a safer climate, and a healthier future for generations she would never meet. Hazel's work began long before climate change was a household term. Growing up during the first wave of modern environmental awareness, she saw firsthand how polluted air and water harmed communities and fueled her own health struggles. When she moved to Arizona in the late 1970s, she had already spent years organizing for clean air initiatives. In Phoenix, she brought that passion into public service. At the Arizona Department of Health Services, she rose to lead

health care licensing and later helped launch Phoenix Shanti, a pioneering treatment center for people living with HIV. She worked with Phoenix Children's Hospital and Maricopa County on air quality regulations that helped bring the region into compliance and protect vital federal transportation funding. She later returned to ADHS as part of the First Things First early childhood program.

Hazel never slowed down, even in retirement. She was a key voice for science and climate action with the Union of Concerned Scientists, Moms Clean Air Force, and Elders Climate Action. She helped grow Elders Climate Action into a national network of thousands of older Americans, including many here in Arizona, who refused to stay silent about the climate crisis. Friends and colleagues remember her as a constant presence at the Capitol and in community spaces, recognizable by her red advocacy shirts and the oven mitt she used to grip overheated railings on summer days at rallies and hearings. She even continued her fight for climate justice from hospice, testifying virtually at an EPA hearing to defend federal climate protections and reminding decision-makers that their choices would define the world her grandchildren and great-grandchildren will inherit.

Hazel believed deeply that everyone deserves clean air, access to nature, and a livable planet. She helped advise on Phoenix's tree and shade planning and worked to bring more trees and cooling to neighborhoods that lacked them. She championed practical steps that ordinary people could take to confront climate change, from planting native shade trees to speaking up for strong public health protections. Her leadership earned recognition from leaders across our state, including a proclamation in Phoenix marking "Hazel Chandler Day" and Lifetime Achievement Awards from both the Sierra Club and EDF Action.

Hazel leaves behind more than accomplishments. She leaves behind cleaner skies, stronger community coalitions, and a movement that draws strength from her example. Her insistence that every person deserves a healthy environment will continue to inspire people across Arizona for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering an organizer, mentor, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother whose commitment to public health and environmental justice never wavered. Hazel Chandler gave her voice, her energy, and her last days to the cause of a safer, healthier planet, and we are all better for it.

#### REMEMBERING MARCUS PLOWDEN

### HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 3, 2025*

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Mr. Marcus Plowden, a beloved husband, father, and friend whose legacy of love, compassion, and devotion to his family, the Western New York community, and our Nation inspired all who knew him.

Born on August 29, 1950, in Buffalo, New York to Mr. Robert Fortson and Mrs. Dorothy Plowden, Mr. Plowden was surrounded by love from the very beginning. He married the love of his life Brenda, and shortly after their

union, the couple became parents to Anthony Plowden. He is survived by numerous loved ones, including a host of relatives and friends. His love for his family and his desire to be there for his Nation and local community, left a lasting impact on all who crossed his path.

Before beginning his career at General Motors, Mr. Plowden graduated from Emerson High School and immediately enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. His service was marked by extraordinary dedication, earning him the National Defense Service Medal. The discipline, leadership, and resilience he developed during his time in the military, would go on to shape his professional approach and contribute significantly to his success in the automotive industry.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Marcus Plowden lived a life of devotion to his family, community, and Nation. His unwavering commitment to those he loved and his compassion for others made a profound impact on all who knew him. Mr. Plowden was a man who believed in the importance of family above all else and worked tirelessly to support those around him. His kindness, loyalty, and the warmth in his heart will forever be remembered and deeply missed. Let us continue to honor his legacy by carrying forward the values he lived by: integrity, respect, and above all, love.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. EMILY RANDALL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 3, 2025*

Ms. RANDALL. Mr. Speaker, on December 1, 2025, due to flight delays, I was unable to vote on H.R. 5348 and H.R. 4423. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 306, and YEA on Roll Call No. 307.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DAVID ROSS HOOKS, JR.

### HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 3, 2025*

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor the life and legacy of David Ross Hooks, Jr., lovingly known as "Pop Pop," who was not only a devoted community leader but also a dedicated former staff member in my office.

Born in Jacksonville Florida on May 3, 1945, David was the oldest of three children. In his early years, his family moved to Far Rockaway in Queens, New York, where he graduated from Far Rockaway High School.

David was a veteran and served in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War as a sharpshooter and a tunnel rat. He served with courage and precision. Though he was honorably discharged in 1969, he remained faithful to the Marine Corps' motto *Semper Fidelis*—Always Faithful—throughout his life. In recognition of his dedication and sacrifice, David was later inducted into the New York State Senate Veteran's Hall of Fame.

David's life after the military was again marked for his dedication to service. After receiving a degree in Political Science from the

College of New Rochelle in 1983, he devoted 20 years to the State University of New York—Queens Educational Opportunity center. David also served on the Community School Board No. 27, the Community Educational Council for Queens County as representative for Queens Borough President Helen Marshall and was a member of the Board of Directors for Blanche Daycare.

David was incredibly devoted to helping the Queens community, even running for New York City Council while championing causes like affordable housing, environmental protection, and small business growth.

After Hurricane Sandy in 2012, David was a source of strength for his community, helping to organize religious services for displaced churches in public schools so that community members and neighbors could continue to come together in the face of adversity.

David's impact extended beyond his community leadership. David was a cherished member of my staff. His intelligence and integrity were demonstrated when he interacted with the people of Queens. His charisma shaped our office and touched the lives of everyone around him.

His loved ones will remember for his humor, charm and undeniable presence. His life was filled with the soulful sounds of Al Green and James Brown, an undeniable reflection of crisp, classic, and sharp style.

A proud Marine, loving mentor, dedicated educator, and devoted family man. David's life was and will remain a testament to service, perseverance, and love. His legacy will continue to live on through those who knew him.

#### REMEMBERING MRS. ADRIANE Z. WILLIAMS

### HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 3, 2025*

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Mrs. Adriane Z. Williams, a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, whose love, compassion, and devotion to her family and faith inspired all who knew her. Mrs. Williams passed away at the age of 66, having lived a fulfilling and rewarding life.

Mrs. Williams was born on October 16, 1958, in Buffalo, New York to Mr. David Ross and Mrs. Geraldine Ross. Mrs. Williams cherished every moment spent with her family—a life filled with love and partnership until her passing. Her greatest joy was spent as a devoted wife to her husband, Mr. Harold Williams, and mother to Corey Ross, Chandler Williams, Christopher Williams, Collin Williams, and Ashley Oweazim; later she was blessed to become a grandmother to three beautiful grandchildren, nurturing them with the same kindness and care she gave to everyone in her life.

As a proud Western New York native, Mrs. Williams was raised with the strong support of her family from the very beginning, helping to shape her into a natural leader in all aspects of her life. She excelled academically, graduating from Daemen University, where she earned her Bachelor's degree with a major in Humanities, and a minor in Philosophy and Religious Studies. She later obtained a Master's degree from SUNY Buffalo State in Student Personnel Administration.