

provided leadership in New Members Orientation, the General Missionary Ministry, the Floral Club, Benevolence Ministry, and the Prison Ministry. A lifelong learner and warm companion, she enjoyed reading, bowling, playing the piano, and card games—always guided by the philosophy to “lift as you climb.” The great agricultural chemist George Washington Carver once said that “How far you go in life depends on your being tender with young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and the strong, because someday in life you will have been all of these.” Mrs. Benson went far in life because she treated all people with dignity and respect and always reached her hand back to help others.

Mrs. Benson leaves behind her husband of 59 years, Winfred Benson, Sr.; her daughter, Thedjuana (Jerry) Nicholson; a sister, Juanita James; three granddaughters, four great-granddaughters, a great-great-grandson; and a wide circle of family, friends, colleagues, and neighbors who will cherish her memory.

Mr. Speaker, Sara Benson's devoted work as an educator, mentor, and community servant made a lasting difference in Albany and beyond. I ask my colleagues to join my wife Vivian and me, along with the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's 2nd Congressional District in honoring the life and legacy of Sara Clementine James Benson.

I join her family and the people of southwest Georgia in mourning her passing and in celebrating a life lived in service to others. May her example continue to inspire our communities to educate, uplift, and care for one another. We pray that all who knew and loved her will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the weeks, months, and years to come.

RECOGNIZING LOIS WASHINGTON'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. GEORGE LATIMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 12, 2025

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Lois Washington as she celebrates her 100th birthday. It is my pleasure to join her family and friends in honoring the remarkable life she has led.

Born on December 12, 1925, at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, Ms. Washington moved with her family to New York City at the age of five and she never looked back. Since then, she has proudly called our great city home. She grew up here, married here, started her family here, and has lived an extraordinary life in the greatest city in the world. Lois also worked for the New York Telephone company and retired after 25 years of hard work and service.

As a resident of Co-op City, she is an active member of her community and a longtime member of the Co-op City Methodist Church. Although she is retired, that has not slowed her down, she watches the news, keeps up with current events, calls family and friends each day, and sometimes doesn't go to sleep until midnight, almost reverting back to her teenage self. She loves her shows and loves her family and the Bronx more. After many incredible years, Lois's contagious positivity and

kindness is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in wishing Lois Washington another year of good health and happiness as she celebrates the milestone of her 100th Birthday.

HONORING BISHOP DUANE TISDALE

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 12, 2025

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the pastoral service of Bishop Duane C. Tisdale in Toledo, Ohio. I will be honored to join his congregation and our community leaders to celebrate his 40th anniversary this Sunday at his church, Friendship Baptist Church, where he was first elected to Associate Pastor in 1985. Beginning on December 9, 1986, Bishop Tisdale has been the congregation's senior Pastor.

As noted in the history, “Bishop Tisdale's leadership, preaching and teaching gave birth to a new concept of ministry for the congregation of Friendship Baptist Church. As a result, Friendship Baptist Church adopted this new concept, entitled ‘New Vision’ as its church vision. ‘New Vision’ embraces the spiritual, mental, physical, economical, and social dimensions of our total being, therefore emphasizing ‘Ministering to the Total Person.’ Through ‘New Vision’ Friendship Baptist Church integrates a holistic ministry in all areas that affect man, his family, and his worship.”

CEO of Friendship New Vision, Bishop Tisdale has led the effort toward practical applications of the “New Vision” philosophy. The outreach ministry offers drug and alcohol outpatient treatment, transitional and residential housing, tutoring, teen services and an economic empowerment and financial freedom initiative.

Bishop Tisdale was born to Pastor Clyde E. and Thelma M. Tisdale, their fourteenth child. Accepting the call to ministry at the age of fifteen, he began preaching at his home church where his father pastored, Rossford First Baptist Church. He was ordained at age nineteen.

In 1987 Bishop Duane Tisdale married his wife Thelma. Together they raised five children: LaTonya, Jerel, Samuel, Joshua, and Sara.

Continuing his calling, Bishop Tisdale received his Bachelor's Degree in Religious Education from the Calvary Bible Institute, Toledo, Ohio in 1981. He went on to attain a Master's Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from Ashland Theological Seminary in 1994. In June 2010 Bishop received an Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from St. Thomas Christian College, Jacksonville Florida. Bishop Tisdale completed his Doctorate of Ministry Degree in Black Church Studies from Ashland Theological Seminary, Ashland, Ohio in June 2011.

Bishop Tisdale became affiliated with Full Gospel Baptist Fellowship International in 1995 and he is a student in the Full Gospel Graduate School of Episcopal Studies. Since then, he has served on the national level in the Pastor's Division on the Advisory Board under Bishop H. Jerome Ross. On the district

level he served as the Northern District Overseer in the State of Ohio. On the state level, he served as the First Administrative Assistant to State Bishop William Morris. From the years of 2001 to 2023, he served as Bishop of the State of Ohio.

A pillar in our community, Bishop Tisdale saw the critical need for financial services in the neighborhoods. He inspired civic and community leaders to rally around a “New Vision” and established the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union. Since its founding in 1996, the credit union has grown into a strong \$10 million institution of stability, serving small and larger depositors alike while developing its mission to secure the economic futures of Toledo's central city residents.

Throughout his life, Bishop Duane Tisdale has led with a servant's heart. He has been minister, mentor, leader and friend. A guiding light in our community and to his congregation, we thank Bishop Tisdale for forty years of faithful service and look forward to his continued light.

RECOGNIZING DECEMBER 21, 2025 AS WORLD MEDITATION DAY

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 12, 2025

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sunday, December 21, 2025, as World Meditation Day, which is designated by the United Nations to celebrate the growing recognition of meditation as a practical tool for mental well-being and peace.

The day will culminate in a global moment of stillness at 10 am ET, when millions of people across time zones will join a live, guided meditation led by global humanitarian Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, founder of The Art of Living Foundation. Gurudev has devoted his life to serving humanity, promoting peace, and advocating human values for over 45 years.

Gurudev is universally acknowledged for his ground-breaking work in stress-management and personal development through powerful breathing techniques such as SKY Breath Meditation, which have benefited more than 800 million people across 182 countries.

Various events throughout the United States will bring communities together in a shared moment of peace and connection during the holiday season, supporting mental well-being, resilience, and utility across our cities.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in a moment of silence in recognition of the World Meditation Day.

CONCERNS WITH H. RES. 939

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 12, 2025

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, impeachment is the most consequential tool Congress to has protect our Nation from a president or other public official who has betrayed their oath, abused their power, and committed high crimes and misdemeanors against the American people. Impeachment necessitates a deliberate process of investigation and a thorough documentation of crimes committed

against the American people. I voted present on the motion to table this impeachment resolution because it does not meet that high standard.

It is clear that many members of the Trump Administration, including President Donald Trump himself, are violating the law and the public's trust in ways that should lead to an investigation on potential high crimes and misdemeanors by the House Judiciary Committee. But bringing an impeachment resolution to the floor mere hours after it has been introduced and without any investigative report—as Congressman GREEN is doing for the second time this Congress—sets a harmful precedent. It undermines the ability of Congress to make a serious and well-documented case for impeachment against this or any future president.

President Trump was impeached twice during his first term, and I voted to impeach him both times. We conducted a formal inquiry during the first impeachment, where we subpoenaed witnesses and held public hearings to demonstrate that the President had abused his power and obstructed Congress. When President Trump was impeached a second time for inciting an insurrection, the House Judiciary Committee completed an investigative report that documented what Members of Congress and our entire Nation witnessed on January 6, 2021. When the articles of impeachment were brought to the floor a week later, almost every House Democrat was a cosponsor. I presided over that vote in the House of Representatives, with full confidence in the case we were presenting to the American people.

The House of Representatives is currently controlled by President Trump's Republican party, and their majority is unwilling to take even the most basic step to hold Trump or anyone in his cabinet accountable for illegal and unconstitutional actions. To be clear, the House of Representatives has a duty to uphold our oath to defend the Constitution from all enemies foreign and domestic. This obligation includes the open, transparent process of Congressional hearings, investigations, and subpoenas into potentially impeachable offenses. The Republican majority controlling this Congress will not allow that work to move forward.

In the face of this obstruction, I will continue to work with my Democratic colleagues to document violations of the law by this administration, submit briefings to the court to rein in their abuses, and collect evidence to hold the President of the United States and his officials accountable.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 12, 2025

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, on December 12, 2025, I was unable to be present during Roll Call No. 334. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 334.

RECOGNIZING NICK ALTON

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 12, 2025

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I recognize the outstanding contributions of Nick Alton, who has served as Minister Counsellor Political at the British Embassy in Washington for the past four years. Throughout his tenure, Nick has been instrumental in strengthening the special relationship between the United Kingdom and the United States. His work ensured that the ties between our nations remain robust and responsive to the challenges of a changing world, fostering collaboration on issues of shared importance and reinforcing the values that unite us.

Nick's efforts extended far beyond the day-to-day responsibilities of diplomacy. He played a pivotal role in coordinating and supporting visits by Prime Ministers, Cabinet Ministers, Members of Parliament, and Members of the Royal Family to Washington and across the United States. His meticulous attention to detail and deep understanding of both British and American political landscapes ensured that these engagements were not only successful but also meaningful, advancing dialogue and cooperation at the highest levels of government and society.

In addition to his work on political affairs, Nick demonstrated remarkable versatility by engaging across a wide range of fields, from security and defense to economic and cultural initiatives. Nick's dedication, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to public service exemplify the very best of diplomatic tradition. Nick is transitioning back to the Foreign Office in London, and I wish him the very best for his future endeavors.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
TOMMY TOMLINSON TO
STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI

HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 12, 2025

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Tommy Tomlinson, a proud resident of Starkville, Mississippi. Tommy graduated from Starkville High School in 1971. In the fall of 1971, he began his freshman year at East Mississippi Community College, where he played for the Lions' Baseball team. After graduating with his associate's degree in 1973, he earned a Bachelor of Banking and Finance from Mississippi State University in 1975. Tommy would later complete programs of study at commercial lending schools at the University of Oklahoma and Vanderbilt University, as well as the Mississippi School of Banking at the University of Mississippi, and the Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University.

Tommy began his banking career in Meridian, Mississippi, at the former Merchants and Farmers Bank. In 1983, he returned to the Golden Triangle area, where he began working at the National Bank of Commerce, now known as Cadence Bank. He worked there for

28 years, serving as regional president, before joining Renasant Bank. Tommy served in various roles at Renasant, most recently as Director of Strategic Partnerships and Executive Vice President.

Tommy has also been deeply engaged in the Starkville community, where he and his family are members of First Baptist Church. His service record includes serving as Chairman of the Greater Starkville Development Partnership, Past President of the Starkville Rotary Club, Executive Board Member of the Mississippi State University Bulldog Club, and Board Member of the Create Foundation, as well as many other local service organizations.

In 2014, Tommy was inducted into the Starkville High School Alumni Hall of Fame and recognized as the 2023 Alumnus of the Year by East Mississippi Community College. He and his wife, Melita, have three daughters. Their oldest daughter, Dr. Kristen Fyke, is married to Rob Fyke, and they have three children, Henry, Noelle, and Mack. Their middle daughter, Laura Armstrong, is married to Dr. Clay Armstrong, and they have two children, Luke and Caroline. Their youngest daughter, Heather Skaggs, is married to Rev. Trey Skaggs, and they have three children, Jones, Will, and Anna Joy. Tommy Tomlinson has been a trusted leader, mentor, and advisor to many generations throughout the Starkville and Golden Triangle community. I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize Tommy's service to Mississippi's 3rd Congressional District and the state of Mississippi as a whole, and I wish him the best in retirement.

APPRECIATING MIRIAM ATRIA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 12, 2025

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to recognize Miriam Atria on her recent retirement from Capital City/Lake Murray Country Regional Tourism. As President and CEO, Miriam made a unique and significant contribution to tourism in South Carolina, helping to establish Lake Murray's reputation as the "Jewel of South Carolina." She and her husband Nick are an exceptional team.

Over her 42 years in the tourism industry, Miriam has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the 2009 Governor's Cup Award, 2015 Champion of Economic Impact on Sports Tourism by Sports Destination Management Award, and the 2016 Rudy Award by the South Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association. Additionally, in 2023, she was honored with the Fred Brinkman Award at the South Carolina Governor's Conference on Tourism and Travel.

Miriam had a vision for tourism in the Midlands and accomplished the opening of the Lake Murray Country Visitors Center. She was instrumental in having the historic Lorick Plantation Home moved from St. Andrews Road to its current location on North Lake Drive. The Lorick Plantation Home was built in 1840, and withstood occupation by Union troops during the Civil War. It was donated by Mrs. Helen Green Love to Capital City/Lake Murray Country and relocated in 1995 with the relocation I attended as one of Miriam's appreciated board members.