

fitting and proper that we honor him here today as he retires from Wine Institute.

RECOGNIZING LISA JANICKI

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 19, 2025

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Lisa Janicki's service as a County Commissioner for Skagit County, Washington.

Commissioner Janicki was first elected to the Skagit County Board of County Commissioners in November 2014, following a career of more than thirty years as the Chief Financial Officer for Janicki family businesses.

During her eleven years in office, Commissioner Janicki has been a tireless leader in fighting the opioid epidemic across our communities and Washington state, advocating for policy solutions, programs, and investments to end this scourge and repair the incredible damage it has caused. She has worked collaboratively with the county's partner jurisdictions to increase services available for community members in need of urgent crisis support. She was a founding member of North Star, a partnership between the county commissioners and government, the mayors of the four largest cities in Skagit County, and service organizations to end homelessness and enhance effective delivery of crisis response, recovery, and support services countywide. Commissioner Janicki also oversaw the development of the STAR Center providing acute behavioral health care services to Skagit County, in addition to the county's first permanent supportive housing development, Martha's Place, and the Skagit First Steps Shelter.

Commissioner Janicki's heartfelt leadership, strategic foresight, and compassion are an inspiration to leaders and community members in Skagit County and across northwest Washington. She has been a transformational advocate for the people of Skagit County.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to commend Commissioner Janicki for her outstanding leadership and vision, dedication to serving her community, and the enduring legacy she has helped to cultivate. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude for her service.

HONORING RONALD L. BOOK

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 19, 2025

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th district of the great state of Florida, I rise today to honor Mr. Ron Book for his exemplary philanthropy and commitment to at-risk youth.

It is my privilege to present Mr. Book with a Congressional Award on behalf of the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project, recognizing his significant contributions to our community and steadfast support for the youth of South Florida. Mr. Book has been selected as a distinguished Role Model Mentor, joining the esteemed ranks of our dedicated honorees.

His leadership and advocacy for the homeless community in Miami-Dade County have profoundly impacted many lives. Through his efforts, he has raised awareness of homelessness issues and championed innovative solutions, ensuring that individuals have access to safe housing and essential resources. His dedication to public service and commitment to creating opportunities for young people, particularly those from underserved backgrounds, have yielded substantial benefits.

His legal expertise and community engagement have provided invaluable support and empowered our youth. The mission of the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project aligns closely with Mr. Book's advocacy. His mentorship of young men of color exemplifies the values we instill in future leaders. His involvement in community programs and willingness to share knowledge inspire those around him. It is with pride that we recognize Mr. Book's achievements and express our gratitude for his dedication to improving the lives of youth. His leadership continues to inspire positive change in our community. I congratulate Mr. Book on this well-deserved recognition. I look forward to further collaboration in fostering the growth of young leaders in South Florida.

We now recognize Mr. Ron Book for his exemplary leadership and advocacy on behalf of the homeless community in Miami-Dade County. Mr. Book has made a significant impact on numerous lives through his unwavering dedication. His efforts have not only highlighted the pressing issues faced by individuals experiencing homelessness but have also fostered the development of innovative solutions aimed at improving their conditions.

RECOGNIZING THE CLASS OF INTERNS FOR THEIR SERVICE TO ILLINOIS' 13TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. NIKKI BUDZINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 19, 2025

Ms. BUDZINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the wonderful class of interns who served in my office during the fall 2025 semester. Their incredible dedication to public service and commitment to learning has been truly inspirational, and the contributions they have made to Illinois' 13th Congressional District have left a significant impact.

In my Washington Office, I was honored to work alongside Henry Scriven-Young, Carter Wood, Maurice Mueller, Ally Denton, and Ethan J.S.H. Reed. These five interns have worked tirelessly to support my staff and have done an excellent job navigating the turbulent nature of Congress. Especially during a government shutdown, when their time with my office was cut short, these five individuals have shown an immense desire to learn and serve others, regardless of the circumstance.

Back in Illinois, I was proud to work with Keziah Gragg in my Springfield Office and Addison Merritt and Ryan Miller in my Campaign Office. Especially following a turbulent government shutdown, these three interns played an integral role in supporting constituents from Central and Southern Illinois to obtain much needed assistance from the federal

government. Their commitment to constituent service by assisting my casework team has been amazing to see, and I am so proud of the work they have accomplished serving the people of Illinois' 13th Congressional District.

The impact that these individuals had on my office will be felt for years to come, and we will be very sad to say farewell to this amazing group of interns. I thank Henry, Carter, Maurice, Ally, Ethan, Keziah, Addison, and Ryan, for their service. I wish them all the best as they continue their professional and academic journeys.

RECOGNIZING AMERICA 250:
INDIAN WOODS

HON. DONALD G. DAVIS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 19, 2025

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today, as part of the "America 250" celebrations, I honor the rich tapestry of history that is Indian Woods and Bertie County, North Carolina. As the community's residents commemorate America's Semiquincentennial, let us reflect upon 250 years of resilience, progress, and unity that have shaped the country.

Indian Woods is a community with an extraordinary history that dates back hundreds of years, predating the arrival of Europeans in North Carolina. The residents of this roughly ten-square-mile area of southern Bertie County, situated between the Roanoke River and Roquist Creek, have fought in many of our Nation's historical conflicts, including the Revolutionary War, and lived through significant eras and transformations. It is one of America's original "melting pots" of Native American, European, and African peoples, which today form a single enduring community.

In honor of this rich history and as part of the America 250 celebrations, the Blue Jay Recreation Center hosted the historical educational event: "Bertie's Forgotten Black and Native Patriots of the Revolutionary War," on October 3 and 4, 2025. In partnership with the North Carolina Department of Cultural and Natural Resources, the Indian Woods Historical Preservation Society, the Blue Jay Recreation Center, and North Carolina Central University, the event highlighted the Revolutionary War patriots from Indian Woods and Bertie County. Thanks to the deep research of Dr. Arwin D. Smallwood on the subject, the program featured reenactments of several historical figures whose ancestral lineage included Native Americans and African ancestors: William Lowry Woods (1758 to 1847), Jacob Braveboy (1759 to 1810), and Arthur Wiggins (1761 to 1830) to name just three of the over 29 recorded from Bertie County.

For the country's birthday, let us celebrate our past achievements and recommit ourselves to the ideals of unity, resilience, and progress that have defined the Union. Together, let us continue to write the next chapter of the county's story, guided by the enduring spirit of those who came before us. I wish a happy Semiquincentennial to the Indian Woods Community and Bertie County. I look forward to another 250 years of heritage, community, and boundless possibility.

RECOGNIZING UNITED STATES
COAST GUARD CWO4 JAMES
MCINNIS AS DECEMBER 2025 VET-
ERAN OF THE MONTH

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 19, 2025

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with profound respect and gratitude to recognize the distinguished service of Chief Warrant Officer 4 James McInnis, United States Coast Guard, as our Veteran of the Month for December 2025 from Michigan's 9th Congressional District. His more than two decades of dedicated service exemplify the highest traditions of our Armed Forces.

CWO4 McInnis devoted more than 24 years to honorable service in the United States Coast Guard after enlisting in 1980 and completing basic training in Cape May, New Jersey. He began his career aboard operational cutters in the Great Lakes, supporting essential missions including fisheries enforcement, search and rescue, icebreaking, and aids to navigation. These missions were vital to the safety of mariners and the protection of our waterways.

As he advanced through the enlisted ranks, CWO4 McInnis served in increasingly responsible operational and supervisory roles. He supported buoy tending and lighthouse operations throughout the Great Lakes and later coordinated extensive search and rescue efforts across large maritime regions, overseeing thousands of cases while leading and mentoring Coast Guard personnel.

Upon promotion to Chief Warrant Officer, Mr. McInnis assumed officer-level responsibilities across multiple Coast Guard missions. He led law enforcement teams supporting international drug interdiction operations aboard United States Navy and allied vessels, deploying to the Caribbean, eastern Pacific, and the Middle East. He also served as an Aids to Navigation Officer in several major ports, supervising cutters and crews responsible for maintaining critical waterways and restoring navigation systems following hurricanes and other emergencies.

In the later years of his career, CWO4 McInnis returned to senior sea and staff assignments, conducting offshore buoy tending, environmental response, and complex recovery missions. He concluded his Coast Guard service in the Great Lakes region, overseeing operations, training, and navigation systems while supporting the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Throughout his distinguished career, CWO4 McInnis earned numerous awards, including four Coast Guard Commendation Medals, five Coast Guard Achievement Medals, the Navy Achievement Medal, the 9/11 Medal, two Southwest Asia Campaign Medals, the Kuwait Liberation Medal from Kuwait, six Sea Service Ribbons, three Good Conduct Medals, and both the Expert Pistol Medal and Expert Rifle Medal.

Following his retirement in July of 2004, Mr. McInnis continued his commitment to service through education. Using a degree earned while on active duty, he taught in Wisconsin's prison system and later, as Education Director, led the introduction of an associate degree pilot program within state prisons for the first time since 1994. That program has since ex-

panded statewide and continues to provide life-changing educational opportunities. He retired from the Wisconsin Department of Corrections in 2024 and returned to Michigan with his wife, Anne, to enjoy traveling and cheering for the Detroit Lions.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Warrant Officer 4 James McInnis' lifetime of service reflects steadfast dedication to our Nation and our communities. His military leadership and postservice contributions have strengthened lives and protected our freedoms, and it is my distinct honor to recognize him as our Veteran of the Month for December 2025.

COMMENDING THE HONORABLE
GENE DODARO

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 19, 2025

Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my fellow Pennsylvanian, the Honorable Gene Dodaro, whose term as U.S. Comptroller General comes to an end this month.

For 52 years, Gene Dodaro has served the American people as part of the Government Accountability Office. During his 17-year tenure as head of the agency, he has embodied GAO's core values of accountability, integrity, and reliability, leading work that has resulted in more than \$1 trillion in taxpayer savings and other financial benefits. His dedication to fighting fraud, waste, and abuse has helped shape the federal civil service for more than half a century.

Gene joined GAO as an entry-level analyst in 1973 after graduating from Pennsylvania's Lycoming College with a bachelor's degree in accounting. He went on to lead GAO's Accounting and Information Management Division, which focused on financial management, computer technology, and budget issues. He served in that role until 1999, when he became GAO's Chief Operating Officer, the agency's number-two position, helping guide the direction and long-term vision of the workforce.

After 35 years of service, when many might have chosen to step away, Gene accepted an appointment as Acting Comptroller General in 2008. He was later confirmed by the Senate in 2010 to serve a 15-year term as Comptroller General. Under his leadership, GAO continued its impactful work on the federal government's long-term fiscal outlook, efforts to reduce overlap and duplication across agencies, and the High-Risk List, which highlights programs and operations vulnerable to waste, fraud, abuse, mismanagement, or in need of transformation. As Comptroller General, Gene also spearheaded the creation of GAO's Innovation Lab, which has strengthened oversight capacity through the use of data science, artificial intelligence, and other emerging technologies.

Throughout his career, Gene has been a steadfast defender of Congress' power of the purse. His work has been especially important to the Budget Committee, including oversight of Impoundment Control Act reviews. He also directed the first-ever audit of the consolidated financial statements of the federal government, an annual effort that has significantly improved transparency and accountability.

Gene Dodaro is widely respected on both sides of the aisle as a principled, nonpartisan public servant. He has been recognized by numerous organizations, including the American Society for Public Administration, the Association of Government Accountants, and the National Academy of Public Administration. Earlier this year, he was inducted into the Government Hall of Fame for his lasting impact on accountability, fiscal responsibility, and public trust in government.

As Gene's term as Comptroller General concludes, his legacy at GAO and in public service is secure. The standards he set, the integrity he brought to the job, and the respect he earned across Congress will continue to shape the institution he devoted his career to strengthening. I thank Gene Dodaro for his extraordinary service to our country and wish him continued success in the next chapter of his public service.

HONORING MISSEY BAILEY

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 19, 2025

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th district of the great state of Florida, I rise today to honor Missey Bailey for her impactful contributions to broadcasting and the South Florida community. I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation:

Whereas, Missey Bailey, a South Florida native, discovered her passion for the broadcasting industry at a young age, inspired by her mother's work at WPLG Channel 10 and iconic broadcasters such as Dwight Lauderdale and Ann Bishop; and

Whereas, while pursuing her education at Broward Community College, Ms. Bailey balanced multiple roles as a private duty nurse and an employee at Pages of Life, South Florida's oldest Bible bookstore, exemplifying her dedication to serving others; and

Whereas, Ms. Bailey launched her broadcasting career at WEXY/1520 AM in Fort Lauderdale, where she excelled as an on-air talent and producer of the nightly show "Night Talk with Rob Jackson"; and

Whereas, on Mother's Day in 1999, Ms. Bailey fulfilled her dream of hosting her own show, "Inspirational Yours," on WEDR/99 Jamz, a heritage station that amplified her voice and connection with the South Florida community; and

Whereas, in 2004, Ms. Bailey transitioned to WHQT/Hot 105 FM where she continued to inspire audiences as the host of "Sunday Morning Joy with Paula" and introduced her acclaimed series, "On Assignment with Missey Bailey"; and

Whereas, in addition to her on-air achievements, Ms. Bailey served as Gospel Music Director and Community Relations Assistant for Hot 105 FM, further solidifying her role as a trusted leader and advocate for her community; and

Whereas, her trailblazing career in radio broadcasting and her unwavering commitment to uplifting others have left an indelible mark on the South Florida community; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, FREDERICA S. WILSON, a member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, on this 25th Anniversary of The Embrace Girls Foundation honor Missey Bailey for her exceptional contributions to the