

recognition of her outstanding contributions to our community and her enduring commitment to social justice. In celebration of Women's History Month, we take this opportunity to highlight the invaluable impact that Rosemary has made in the Bronx and beyond.

A lifelong resident of the Bronx, Rosemary is an Afro Latina and a proud member of the Garifuna community. She has spent her life dedicated to serving others, with a focus on empowerment, advocacy, and uplifting those in need. Rosemary's work continues to reflect her deep-rooted belief in the power of community and the importance of ensuring that every individual has the opportunity to thrive.

Currently serving as Deputy Executive Director for Community & Economic Empowerment at Phipps Neighborhoods, Rosemary oversees a variety of programs aimed at ensuring that Bronx residents receive the support and resources they need. She leads the Resident Services portfolio, assisting households transitioning from homelessness to permanent housing. Through her leadership, Rosemary and her team provide critical services that enable families to move into stable, long-term housing and integrate successfully into their communities.

Rosemary's efforts extend beyond housing support, as she also manages essential social service programs, including food pantries, services for older adults, and community development initiatives such as Beacons, Cornerstones, and Arches Re-Entry. Her work touches the lives of residents across the Bronx, Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Queens, and she continues to be a tireless advocate for those seeking financial stability and community involvement.

Her exceptional service to the community has earned Rosemary numerous accolades, including being named one of the Power Women of the Bronx by Schneps Media in 2022, as well as being named one of the 25 Most Influential Women in Bronx County by the Bronx Times in 2010. She has received widespread recognition from elected officials and organizations for her unwavering commitment to enhancing the quality of life for economically challenged communities.

In addition to her professional accomplishments, Rosemary is a prominent civic leader. She serves as Vice President of the Bronx Democratic Party, a Judicial Delegate, and a County Committee Member. She also holds a leadership role as a Special Advisor to the Garifuna Coalition and is an active member of Friends of Crotona Park. Furthermore, Rosemary serves as a Board Member of the Lincoln Fund, a renowned philanthropic organization working to foster positive change in underserved communities.

Her academic accomplishments are equally impressive. Rosemary holds a master's degree in social work from Fordham University and is a New York State Licensed Master Social Worker. She also earned a bachelor's degree in Sociology from Marymount Manhattan College.

Rosemary's legacy is one of profound service, dedication, and leadership. Through her work, she has created lasting change in the lives of countless individuals and families. Her tireless efforts to advocate for social justice, economic opportunity, and community empowerment continue to inspire those around her.

It is with great respect and admiration that I recognize Rosemary Ordóñez-Jenkins as a

true champion of the Bronx, a leader in her community, and an outstanding woman whose contributions to our society exemplify the values we celebrate during Women's History Month.

RECOGNIZING THE NEW BRAUNFELS NOON LIONS CLUB

HON. CHIP ROY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the New Braunfels Noon Lions Club on their 100 dedicated years of service to the New Braunfels community. Originally chartered as the Lions Club of New Braunfels on April 10, 1925, and later known as the New Braunfels Noon Lions Club, this organization has been an integral part of the community for 100 years, embodying the spirit of service and leadership.

Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization, with more than 1.35 million members in over 220 nations and geographic areas, united by the motto "We Serve;" the Lions focus on five core pillars of service. Preventing blindness and improving quality of life for those who are blind or visually impaired, ensuring access to food for all in the community, reducing the prevalence of diabetes and enhancing the lives of those afflicted, supporting programs that assist children with cancer, and protecting and restoring the environment to promote community well-being.

Recently, the Noon Lions volunteered at elementary schools in Comal County to provide free vision screenings for thousands of elementary school children. In the coming months, the Lions will travel to Belize and partner with the Belize City Lions Club to provide vision screening, meals to those in need, and support for the city. I know the Lions will be a beacon of light and hope and they will represent Texas well during their trip abroad.

Over the past century, the New Braunfels Noon Lions Club has exemplified the Lions' mission by making a profound impact in the local community through service, leadership, and philanthropy. They have made a lasting impact on the community by contributing hundreds of thousands of dollars to local causes, funding its charitable work through dedicated volunteer efforts at various fundraising activities throughout the community, and fostering a spirit of patriotism and community pride. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the New Braunfels Noon Lions. Here's to 100 more.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF THE EPHRATA LIONS CLUB

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate and recognize the Ephrata Lions Club of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania for their 100th anniversary.

Epitomized by the motto "We Serve," the Ephrata Lions Club has dedicated itself to

public service since its chartering on February 26, 1925. Presently led by President Kendra Rhinier, the club consists of fifty men and women who work tirelessly to better their community. Alongside robust community service programming, such as food drives and cleaning trash from highways, the Lions Club gives out around \$30,000 a year to those in need, as a result, they have raised funds for social services, disaster relief, youth programs, and more. The zeal of the Ephrata Lions Club is not limited to their town, but has uplifted people across the state, the Nation, and the world.

The Ephrata Lions Club is one of 49,000 clubs across 200 countries and regions, and Lions Club International boasts 1.4 million members.

As the Ephrata Lions Club celebrates this significant milestone, I would like to thank the club and its members for their record of selflessness. Their efforts have made both Ephrata and Pennsylvania's 11th District a better place.

HONORING J. MARK SWEENEY ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE LI- BRARY OF CONGRESS

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and the Committee on House Administration Ranking Member JOE MORELLE, I rise today to recognize J. Mark Sweeney, Principal Deputy Librarian of Congress, for his exemplary service to Congress and the American people upon his retirement.

Mr. Sweeney began his career at the Library in 1985 as a Library Technician, sorting, organizing, and shelving government publications. Nearly forty years later, he retires as one of the agency's most impactful leaders, leaving behind a commendable legacy of public service.

His legacy includes advancing several critical Library-wide initiatives that have enhanced the Library's services and enriched its offerings to users. Since stepping into the role of Principal Deputy Librarian in 2018, he has provided executive leadership to further the institution's priorities, including leading a process to develop and launch a user-centered strategic plan and improving the visitor experience for Americans traveling to the Library's Thomas Jefferson Building on Capitol Hill. His strong management skills also successfully guided the Library's operations through the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

As Associate Librarian for Library Services, beginning in 2015, he was responsible for acquiring, securing, and preserving the Library's universal collections. His career contributions include playing an instrumental role in preserving and ensuring access to hundreds of years of American newspapers, from the eighteenth century to the present. His work with the United States Newspaper Program, along with his leadership in expanding digital accessibility within the National Digital Newspaper Program, continues to serve as a model of national cooperation in preserving important aspects of America's cultural heritage for Congress, researchers, and future generations.

Throughout his distinguished career in public service, Mr. Sweeney has held multiple positions at the Library, including Chief of the Preservation Reformatting Division, Chief of the Serial and Government Publications Division, Chief of the Humanities and Social Sciences Division, and Director of Preservation, among other roles.

On behalf of the Committee on House Administration, Ranking Member MORELLE and I commend Mr. Sweeney for his many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the Library of Congress.

HONORING SOPHIA L. REID FOR
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, It is my great honor to rise today to recognize and celebrate the exceptional contributions of Sophia L. Reid, a true champion for seniors and community empowerment in the Bronx. In celebration of Women's History Month, I proudly honor Sophia for her tireless commitment to enhancing the lives of older adults and for her selfless dedication to building a stronger, more vibrant community.

Sophia has served as the Program Director of the R.A.I.N. (Regional Aid for Interim Needs) Eastchester Neighborhood Older Adults Center since November 2016. Prior to her current role, she was the Program Director at the R.A.I.N. Boston Secor Older Adults Center, where she laid the foundation for her distinguished career in senior services. In her role, Sophia is responsible for fostering healthy aging and well-being for older adults by offering a wide array of programs, including physical exercise activities, mental stimulation sessions, and health awareness initiatives. She ensures that every member of the community has access to the resources and support they need to live a fulfilling life.

Sophia's journey in service began at the Eastchester Center in 2006, when she joined as an Administrative Assistant. Over the years, her dedication, hard work, and passion for community service led her to rise through the ranks, ultimately becoming the Program Director in 2016. Sophia's educational background, which includes a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from The College of New Rochelle, a Certificate in Information Processing from New York Business School, and a Medical Assistant Diploma from Blake Business School, has provided her with the foundation to thrive in both healthcare and community services. She has also pursued additional certifications, including training as a Diabetes Self-Management Program Peer Leader and a Certified Trainer for Bronx Health Corps. Her commitment to ongoing education underscores her dedication to improving the lives of those around her.

Sophia's impact extends far beyond her professional roles. She has received numerous awards and recognitions for her exemplary service, including a Certificate of Appreciation from the New York City Department for the Aging, a Citation of Merit from Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr., and the Live On New York Appreciatively Certificate. In 2023

alone, Sophia received the Phenomenal Woman Award, the Women of Influence Award, and a Proclamation from the New York City Council, among other honors.

Sophia has created an environment at the Eastchester Older Adults Center where members feel safe, valued, and supported. As one of her seniors put it, Sophia is like a "mother hen," always looking out for everyone, and no one is too far out of reach for her care. Sophia's love and commitment to her community, particularly her "seasoned Seenagers," is not only reflected in her numerous awards but in the lives she touches every day.

It is with great admiration and gratitude that I recognize Sophia L. Reid for her remarkable dedication to the Bronx and to the well-being of our senior citizens. Her exemplary service and her unwavering commitment to the community exemplify the qualities we celebrate during Women's History Month.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEM-
ORY OF PASTOR EDDIE D.
SMITH, SR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life and memory of a dedicated pastor, loving father and husband, visionary servant leader, and friend of longstanding, Pastor Eddie D. Smith, Sr. Sadly, Pastor Smith passed from labor to reward on February 28, 2025. A celebration of his life was held on March 8, 2025, at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in Macon, Georgia.

Pastor Smith, a native of Macon, Georgia, was born to the union of the late Pastor Jack Smith, Jr., and Mrs. Mattie Mae Myers Smith. A highly educated man, Pastor Smith attended Bibb County public schools and went on to earn a Bachelor and a Master of Science from Fort Valley State College, now Fort Valley State University. On April 26, 1969, Pastor Smith received a calling that would change his life forever—he was called to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Pastor Smith served as a classroom teacher and a media specialist in the Bibb County Public School system for fourteen years before retiring to serve full-time at Macedonia Church, accepting the role of pastor in 1972. While Pastoring, he was also called to public service, serving as a Macon City Councilman from 1975 to 1978, as well as a member of the Bibb County Board of Education for two consecutive terms.

The scripture reminds us in Proverbs 29 that "where there is no vision, the people perish." Pastor Smith's vision for Macedonia was evident from the very beginning of his ministry. In his early years at Macedonia, Pastor Smith led the congregation in raising the funds to pay off the church's fifteen-year mortgage in a record five years. In 1999, Pastor Smith led Macedonia Baptist in the purchasing of a struggling sister church. Together, they relocated and revived the church's congregation and liquidated its \$1.35 million debt in under three years. In more recent years, he oversaw the funding and construction of the \$1.7 million dollar Family Life Center, a comprehensive faith-based service ministry which edu-

cates clergy across Middle Georgia. Over the course of his ministry, Pastor Smith licensed and ordained more than forty-five ministers, extending the reach of his servant leadership to the members of many congregations throughout the region. Also, he led his flock through the COVID-19 pandemic, establishing community-wide food distribution services and virtual church services and tithing, while ensuring all bills were paid and no church staff lost their jobs.

Sir Winston Churchill often said: "You make your living by what you get, you make your life by what you give." Pastor Smith gave so much to so many for so long. His service extended beyond the walls of the church, as he was affiliated with several social and civic organizations throughout his career. He served on the boards of the United Way, the American Cancer Society, the Macon Ministerial Association, and the Macon Police and Fire-fighter Disciplinary Hearing Board.

Pastor Eddie Smith always fought for what is right. He was guided by his love of God and his love of people. Mother Teresa once said that "at the end of life we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made, how many great things we have done. We will be judged by 'I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was naked, and you clothed me. I was homeless and you took me in.'" This is how Pastor Eddie Smith lived his life and served people in the name of Jesus Christ.

At the center of Pastor Smith's accomplished life was the unwavering love and support of his family and his loving wife, Martha Kate. Pastor Smith was the father of five children: Suwandia; Eddie, Jr., Corey and the late Alvy Smith and Edwanna Smith Stephens. He is survived by fourteen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

On a personal note, Pastor Smith was my friend for many years. He never told me what I wanted to hear, but he always told me what he felt I needed to hear. I will be forever grateful for his wise advice and sage counsel.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian, and the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District in honoring the life and legacy of Pastor Eddie D. Smith, Sr. and in extending our deepest sympathies to his family, friends, colleagues, and all those who mourn his loss. We pray that all will be consoled by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was not present for the following Roll Call Vote on March 10, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 63.