

It is a day of mutual respect and admiration, where citizens of both Poland and Hungary honor the legacy of their friendship and the importance of international unity.

As we celebrate Polish-Hungarian Friendship Day, let us reflect on the values that have brought our nations together: freedom, solidarity, and a commitment to each other's well being. May this day continue to inspire future generations to uphold the bonds of friendship and work together for a stronger, more connected world.

CELEBRATING THE 145TH ANNIVERSARY OF TRINITY AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join Trinity African Methodist Episcopal Church, the historic Church in Long Branch, New Jersey as it celebrates its 145th Anniversary this year. Since its incorporation in 1880, Trinity AME has provided a center for spiritual and community development to Monmouth County residents.

In 1995, the history of Trinity AME became nationally recognized when the church was added to the National Register of Historic Places. In 2015, Reverend Dr. Devereaux, Esq. made history as the first female pastor of Trinity AME. This congregation contributes generous efforts of outreach for our local community. Every week they show up for those in need with their Weekly Food Distribution program. Annually, they distribute turkeys to over 100 families and conduct a toy drive, which reached over 1,500 children last year. In addition to these efforts, existing programs to support seniors and women in leadership reflect their commitment to empower others at every stage in life. They have truly lifted and liberated their community.

Under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Devereaux, the church has undergone several community and refurbishment projects. Thanks to their vibrant ministry, congregants have access to a new fellowship hall, an updated Handicap ramp, membership to the youth choir, and a chance to learn from the Annual Remarkable Women in Community Service Awards Program recipients. Rev. Dr. Devereaux has also made efforts to collaborate with the local mayor, myself, and other faith leaders with initiatives such as Police & Youth Unity and the creation of the Long Branch Think Tank, committed to collaborating on issues at a local level. I am pleased to join the Trinity AME Family in coining together to mark the many glorious years of faith.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in celebrating Trinity African Methodist Episcopal Church as its members and supporters celebrate its 145th Anniversary. Trinity AME is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

RECOGNIZING THE 55TH WING 85TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DON BACON

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 85th birthday of the 55th Wing, the "Fightin' Fifty-Fifth", headquartered at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska. This Air Force organization is home to the thousands of men and women who dedicate their lives to providing global vigilance as a vital part of America's national defense. I am proud to count myself as a member of the Fightin' Fifty-Fifth, having served four tours of duty with the Wing and had the honor of serving as its commander from 2011 to 2012.

The 55th Wing traces its lineage back to the 55th Pursuit Group which was first constituted in November of 1940 and later activated at Hamilton Field, California, in January of 1941. The 55th deployed to England in 1943 flying P-38 Lightning and P-51 Mustang fighter aircraft as part of the "Mighty" Eighth Air Force. While providing escort for allied bombing missions during World War II, the 55th Pursuit Group earned two Distinguished Unit Citations, produced 16 fighter aces, and was credited with 90 air-to-air victories.

After World War II, in 1946, the group was deactivated, only to be reactivated less than a year later as the 55th Reconnaissance Group under the Strategic Air Command. By 1950, it would be designated the 55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, and in 1952 it was assigned to Forbes Air Force Base in Topeka, Kansas, operating the RB-50 Stratofortress and later the RB-47E Stratojet. During the Cold War, Airmen of the 55th Wing routinely conducted high-risk and politically sensitive reconnaissance missions along the frontiers of the Soviet Union, with frequent and sometimes deadly interactions with Soviet fighter aircraft.

In August of 1966, the 55th Wing moved to Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska, where it proudly resides to this day. During the height of the Cold War, the Wing took on nuclear command and control and 24/7 airborne alert missions flying the EC-135 Looking Glass and later, the E-4 National Emergency Airborne Command Post.

The Wing pivoted again after the fall of the Soviet Union, and in 1990 deployed its RC-135 Rivet Joint aircraft to the Middle East in support of Operation Desert Shield. Within a year, they would pivot to Operation Desert Storm, followed by Operation Southern Watch and later the Global War on Terror, providing real-time information for tactical forces, theater commanders, and national decision makers in what is believed to be the longest continuous deployment for a unit in U.S. military history.

Today, the 55th Wing is the largest wing in Air Combat Command, comprised of 6 groups, 31 squadrons, and 3 detachments located worldwide. It operates 48 aircraft, including multiple variants of the RC-135 and the EC-130H and EA-37B Compass Call electronic attack aircraft. The sun truly never sets on the Fightin' Fifty-Fifth.

Over the last 85 years of war and peace, missions and aircraft have come and gone, and operating locations have changed as the needs of the nation have evolved. Throughout it all, the men and women of the 55th Wing

have never wavered in their mission to fly, fight, and win. It is my great honor to recognize their achievements and salute their history today. Once again I say, happy birthday to the men and women of the Fightin' Fifty-Fifth.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I recently gave birth and am unable to travel to D.C. to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 72, and YEA on Roll Call No. 73.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on the Legislative Day of March 24, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 72, and YEA on Roll Call No. 73.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, due to airline schedules, my flight was delayed. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 72, and YEA on Roll Call No. 73.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF CONGRESSWOMAN NITA LOWEY

HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to our dear colleague, Nita Lowey, who served as the U.S. Representative for New York's 17th Congressional District from 1989 to 2021. Congresswoman Lowey made a profound and lasting impact on this body, and her dedication to public service will be remembered for years to come. Today, we reflect on her tireless work, her trailblazing leadership, and the legacy she leaves behind.

Representative Lowey's career was defined by her unwavering commitment to advancing key issues such as healthcare, women's rights, support for Israel, combating anti-Semitism, and the well-being of her constituents. In 2019, the Congresswoman made history as the first woman to serve as the chair of the House Appropriations Committee. Through this influential position, she played a critical role in shaping and directing the federal budget, ensuring that vital programs in healthcare,

education, and infrastructure received the funding they needed to thrive. As a strong advocate for healthcare, Representative Lowey played an active role in supporting the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and worked tirelessly to secure federal funding for services that benefited underserved communities. Her advocacy also extended to women's health, where she fought for access to reproductive healthcare and made sure that healthcare was available to women in need.

Beyond her healthcare work, Congresswoman Lowey was an outspoken advocate for women's rights and gender equality. She supported the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act and pushed for policies that promoted gender equality and women in leadership. The Congresswoman was also deeply committed to global issues, particularly U.S.-Israel relations, serving as a senior member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Her leadership led to the passage of the Nita M. Lowey Middle East Partnership for Peace Act. This bill provides extraordinary funding to foster economic cooperation between Israelis and Palestinians to help build lasting peace.

Representative Nita Lowey's legacy in Congress is one of tireless service, advocacy, and leadership. Her work in securing funding for healthcare, education, foreign aid, and her unwavering support for women's rights, Israel, and the Jewish people will continue to influence the policy agenda for years to come. As we move forward in Congress, let us remember the example she set—a reminder that public service is about improving the lives of others and fighting for what is right. I offer my deepest gratitude for her decades of dedicated service. My thoughts are with her family and loved ones as we honor her memory.

COMMERCIAL REMOTE SENSING AMENDMENT ACT OF 2025

SPEECH OF

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 24, 2025

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1325, the "Commercial Remote Sensing Amendment Act of 2025."

I would like to thank the gentleman from Oklahoma, Congressman FRANK LUCAS, who was former Chair of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology where I serve as Ranking Member, for reintroducing this legislation. I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of this bill and continue working with Congressman LUCAS with whom I collaborated on our Committee's bipartisan work.

H.R. 1325 is a no-nonsense, good government bill that amends existing statute to conform with updated regulatory guidelines. This legislation also directs reporting to Congress on commercial remote sensing licensing, which is carried out under statutory authority granted to the Department of Commerce. H.R. 1325 provides Congress with the necessary transparency to carry out ongoing oversight of the Department's implementation of its authority and regulatory responsibilities.

Ensuring that our U.S. commercial space-based remote sensing industry leads the world is not only important for our economy, it is essential for securing the power that space-

based information has for our Nation—from natural disaster assessments and responses to precision agriculture and applied uses for national security. For example, commercial remote sensing images provide an important means of shining a light on the world's actions in a way that satellites designated for national security, or the intelligence community cannot. Commercial imagery of the advancement of Russia into Ukraine is but one example.

It is not surprising that several commercial remote sensing companies are in the Bay area of Northern California where my District is located. California is an incubator of space technology, and the Bay area and Silicon Valley are drivers of information technology innovation. Coupling commercial space-based remote sensing data with analytical tools and information technology is a force multiplier that augments and enables essential decision-support products.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House to vote "YEA" on H.R. 1325, the "Commercial Remote Sensing Amendment Act of 2025."

CELEBRATING JOHN J. FLYNN AS THE IRISHMAN OF THE YEAR BY THE AMHERST GAELIC LEAGUE

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John J. Flynn, who served as the 41st District Attorney of Erie County, New York. Mr. Flynn is celebrated as Irishman of the Year by the Amherst Gaelic League at their 51st Irish Appreciation Party, an honor that reflects his distinguished career and significant contributions to the community.

Mr. Flynn, a Western New York native, graduated from East Aurora High School and Bowling Green State University with a degree in Political Science. He then joined the U.S. Navy, serving as Assistant Supply Officer aboard the USS *Cleveland* (LPD-7) in San Diego, deploying to the Western Pacific and serving during the Gulf War. After his naval service, he attended the University at Buffalo School of Law, continuing his Naval Reserve duties. Upon graduating in 1995, he returned to active duty in the Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps as a Navy attorney at Pensacola Naval Air Station, Florida, and was appointed as a Special Assistant United States Attorney.

In 2001, Mr. Flynn returned to Western New York, joining the Erie County District Attorney's Office as an Assistant District Attorney and quickly rising to the Homicide Bureau. He then entered private practice, working as a personal injury attorney and lecturing at SUNY Buffalo State from 2002 to 2016. Mr. Flynn served in the Naval Reserves until his retirement in 2017 with the rank of Commander and four additional Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals. His public service began in 2003 with his election to the Town of Tonawanda Town Board, followed by appointments as Town Justice in 2006, acting Buffalo City Court Judge, and Town Attorney in 2010. In 2016, Mr. Flynn was elected as Erie County District Attorney, taking office on January 1, 2017, and was re-elected in 2020 for a second term.

Mr. Speaker, John J. Flynn's remarkable career and dedication to public service stand as a powerful symbol of integrity, commitment, and leadership. His tireless work as District Attorney, his service in the Navy, and his deep involvement in the community exemplify his unwavering commitment to justice and progress. Mr. Flynn's recognition as Irishman of the Year by the Amherst Gaelic League is a fitting tribute to his lifelong contributions to both his heritage and the greater community. His efforts for justice, inclusivity, and service inspire us to embrace the values of unity and leadership, working toward a brighter, more united future for everyone.

RECOGNIZING AMANDA BREWER FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

HON. DON BACON

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize for Women's History Month, Amanda Brewer, Chief Executive Officer of Habitat for Humanity of Omaha, who has the heart of service for her community. Amanda was raised in Norfolk, Nebraska by her parents Michael and Kathleen Jedlicka, graduating from Norfolk Catholic High School, where she was instilled with the values of service, compassion, and community. She is married to her husband Kelly, and they have a pre-teen daughter, Lydia.

Amanda went on to graduate from DePaul University. Still, in 1997, she felt a call to serve and address inequities in the world that she had become aware of. So, she dropped everything and moved from the corporate world in Chicago to Georgia, where she became a full-time volunteer with Habitat for Humanity International.

Returning to Nebraska in 1999, she joined Habitat for Humanity of Omaha as an associate director. Six years later, she was named CEO and has served in that role faithfully and with a dedicated vision.

Becoming the top-ranked affiliate in families served in the U.S., Habitat for Humanity of Omaha has achieved remarkable growth and impact under Amanda's leadership. The organization serves five eastern Nebraska counties, has built and renovated thousands of homes, and developed transformative programs that empower families and strengthen communities.

Amanda knows that preserving communities goes beyond simply building homes. She has provided opportunities for families to create generational wealth through innovations such as education programs for homeowners about wealth transfer and heirs' rights. She has also implemented covenants to ensure long-term affordability through property tax limits and advocacy efforts. Her vision for communities also includes pioneering affordable housing initiatives, advocating for equitable homeownership opportunities, and launching partnerships far beyond traditional boundaries.

These accomplishments are monumental but not what Amanda cherishes most: the kindness and humanity she has seen in others during her 27 years of service. She fully embraces the idea that everyone has something valuable to offer and talents to share.