

off our streets is exactly why I will continue to champion policies that prioritize public safety and law enforcement.

It is because of the bravery and hard work of the Prince William County Police Department and their partners that Virginia's Seventh District—and our entire Nation—is safer today. Their commitment to keeping our neighborhoods safe is a model we should all be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Prince William County Police Department for their exceptional service and commitment to ensuring the safety of our communities. Their bravery and professionalism deserve our deepest recognition and thanks.

CELEBRATING WJBC FOR 100  
YEARS OF SERVICE TO CENTRAL  
ILLINOIS

**HON. DARIN LAHOOD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2025*

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to congratulate WJBC as they reach a monumental milestone. For 100 years, WJBC has been the voice of McLean County. The hosts have dedicated themselves to providing residents of Central Illinois with timely and reliable news to keep the public informed.

Local radio station's are more important than ever. They bring a unique, personal, and powerful form of communication to their audience. WJBC serves as a bridge between communities, providing a unique space where local stories, issues, and voices can be heard.

WJBC has welcomed Presidents, governors, politicians, celebrities, and local voices to keep us informed about public events and connect our community.

The station has been home to legendary on-air personalities, including Don Newberg, Don Munson, Steve Vogel, Ken Behrens, Dick Luedke, Scott Laughlin, and current morning host Scott Miller, who have all enriched the lives of listeners and made significant contributions to the communities and organizations across Central Illinois.

This is a monumental moment for WJBC, and I congratulate them on their 100 years of success. I look forward to listening to WJBC for many more years to come.

HONORING JUSTINA SALINAS

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Justina Salinas, whom I have named the California 4th District's 2025 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year for Solano County in recognition of her visionary leadership in regenerative agriculture, habitat restoration, and environmental advocacy.

Born in Sacramento, California, Ms. Salinas graduated from the American School of London and earned her bachelor's degree from Santa Clara University, where she majored in both E-commerce and Studio Art, with additional minors in Entrepreneurship and Retail

Management. Inspired by her grandparents who immigrated to California from Guanajuato, Mexico, in the 1960s and worked in the fields with a profound respect for nature, Ms. Salinas founded Araceli Farms in 2017, a small lavender farm in Dixon.

What began as a family-run venture evolved into a model of environmental restoration for all. Ms. Salinas has transformed her farm into a thriving native grassland meadow, prioritizing regenerative agriculture practices including soil health restoration, dry farming, biodiversity conservation, no till farming, integrated rotational grazing, natural pest management, and native plant reintegration. Her farm has become a haven for the native species of our Solano County, with blue belly lizards, egrets, herons, red-tailed hawks, barn owls, and other species all thriving on the property. By intentionally choosing not to disturb the soil, Ms. Salinas has fostered a living, nutrient-rich environment that has become a sanctuary for wildlife and a beacon of sustainable land stewardship.

Ms. Salinas views farming as an act of healing. Her practices reflect a commitment to ethical farming, water conservation, and environmental justice, embodying a new model of agriculture that harmonizes production with ecological renewal. Ms. Salinas also acknowledges the privilege of her access to land. She has made it a mission for Araceli Farms to serve as a space for reflection, learning, and community connection, fostering opportunities for young people and aspiring farmers to engage with the natural world.

Beyond her farm, Ms. Salinas is an active member of the Community Alliance with Family Farmers (CAFF) Policy Committee and the California Native Plant Society. She volunteers with organizations like the Research Conservation District, participates in native plant restoration projects, and has lent her voice to lobbying efforts in Sacramento, advocating for regenerative agriculture and sustainable food systems to leaders at the California State Capital. Additionally, Ms. Salinas donates gift baskets to schools, hospitals, and animal rescues, cares for the elderly, supports underprivileged youth, and regularly participates in trash cleanups in our community.

Mr. Speaker, Justina Salinas reminds us that farming is more than a profession, rather a relationship with the land and a call to stewardship. Her resilience, kindness, and unwavering dedication to ecological justice make her a powerful role model in Solano County and beyond. For these reasons and more, it is fitting and proper that we recognize her today as Solano County's 2025 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year.

PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL  
AMVETS AUXILIARY PRESIDENT  
CINDY RICE

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2025*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I have the honor of representing Ohio's 9th Congressional District, a region known for its patriotic spirit, strong civic institutions, and deep respect for those who have served our Nation in uniform. Today, I am privileged to recognize a

distinguished leader and devoted advocate from our community—Cindy Rice, National President of the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary.

Whereas, Cindy Rice, a lifelong resident of Ohio and a dedicated advocate for veterans and their families, was elected National President of the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary in August 2024, bringing with her decades of service, compassion, and unwavering commitment to the AMVETS mission; and

Whereas, Cindy Rice's journey of service began in 1984 when she joined AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Post 22 in Vermilion, Ohio, becoming a life member in 1999, and since then, has risen through the ranks of leadership at the local, district, state, and national levels, including serving as Department President of Ohio in 2015; and

Whereas, Madam President has held numerous distinguished national positions, including National Historian, National Hospital Chair, National Honors and Awards Chair, and Vice President at all levels, as well as two terms as National Sergeant of Arms—roles in which she exemplified leadership, humility, and heartfelt service; and

Whereas, her steadfast volunteerism, including at the Sandusky Ohio Veterans Home, and her continued leadership as President of Ohio AMVETS Charities and Secretary of her local Auxiliary, reflect her deep and abiding dedication to the well-being of our veterans and their families; and

Whereas, Cindy Rice has played an instrumental role in raising funds and awareness for vital causes such as PAWS With a Cause, the John Tracy Center, St. Jude Children's Hospital, Founding Forward, and the AMVETS Scholarship Program, all while promoting the core values of the Auxiliary and strengthening the AMVETS family across the country; and

Whereas, during her presidency, Cindy has chosen the "AMVETS Diabetes Research Center" at Ohio University as her national project, dedicating this year of service to veterans, Auxiliary members, and family affected by diabetes, with the belief that Together We Can work toward a cure for this devastating disease; and

Whereas, Cindy Rice's eligibility for AMVETS stems from her proud lineage of service—her father, a World War II Army Veteran, and her husband, Roger, a U.S. Navy Veteran—and is further honored by two nephews currently serving in the U.S. Marine Corps; and

Whereas, with 48 years of experience in the field of dentistry, Cindy continues to serve her community even in retirement, offering her time and skills where needed and bringing the same care and diligence to her professional life as she has to her AMVETS mission; and

Whereas, Cindy Rice has traveled extensively throughout the United States to visit AMVETS Departments and Auxiliaries, sharing her message, promoting her project, and uplifting all with her inspiring theme—Together We Can;

Now, therefore, I, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, proudly recognize and commend Cindy Rice, National President of the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary, for her outstanding service, leadership, and unwavering dedication to our veterans and their families. May her legacy of compassion, advocacy, and tireless commitment continue to inspire current and future generations of Auxiliary members across the nation.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand to honor Cindy Rice for her exceptional contributions and steadfast devotion to the AMVETS community and to the service of our great Nation.

RECOGNIZING HOLLISTER CITY  
ADMINISTRATOR RICK  
ZIEGENFUSS

### HON. ERIC BURLISON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2025

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hollister City Administrator Rick Ziegenfuss, who is retiring this month after 23 years in this position.

Mr. Ziegenfuss is a native of Cedar Falls, Iowa, but came to Missouri when he took his Army Infantry basic training at Ft. Leonard Wood in central Missouri. During his 22-year Army career, he graduated from Infantry Officer Candidate School, Infantry Officer Basic Course, Infantry Officer Advanced Course, and the Army's Command and General Staff College, where he graduated with honors. He held a series of command positions and earned numerous service awards and medals. He was discharged honorably as a Lieutenant Colonel.

Following his military service, Mr. Ziegenfuss started an environmental company, which he subsequently sold, was vice president of operations for Creative Printing and Design, was owner and president of Ameri Trade Corp., and then became the director of economic development for the City of Hollister before he was promoted to city administrator.

Mr. Ziegenfuss holds a Bachelor of Arts in personnel management from Mary Crest College in Davenport, Iowa. He has served on multiple boards in the Branson, Missouri, area and has been recognized with the Missouri Award, the Hollister Area Chamber of Commerce Heart of Hollister Award, the Branson Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce Pioneer and Community Spirit awards, and the True American Hero Award from the Branson Veteran's Task Force.

Mr. Ziegenfuss is married to the former Dana Woodall, and they have three daughters; Beth, Brooke, and Brittney; a stepdaughter, Jordan; a stepson, Logan; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

I'd like to congratulate Mr. Ziegenfuss on his outstanding career. Please join me in thanking him for his many years of service to others and wishing him well on his retirement.

### TRIBUTE TO ANTIOCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

### HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2025

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Antioch Missionary Baptist Church in Hartsville, South Carolina. The history of Antioch is profound and deserving of the great celebration that is taking place on Easter Sunday.

The journey that has brought Antioch Church to this moment began in 1888 when

the Church was established on the crest of a hill. That year, a group of people with great faith in their hearts and each other, came together for one mission. The Church's early founders—Shade Charles, Joe Coe, William Brunson, Ham Fountain, and the Reverend Jonas Muldrow decided to call their new church "Antioch." These men and women were the first officers of the church with Reverend Jonas Muldrow as their first pastor.

In 1937, the structure of the Church was replaced, and it has gone through several renovations since, with the most recent taking place in 1984, when the church added two Sunday school classrooms and brick veneered the sanctuary.

Since its inception, Antioch Missionary Baptist Church and its congregation have served as a beacon of light within the community. The programs and ministries initiated by the church have served as models—for other churches of various denominations in the area. The strength of spirit and unbridled faith have allowed the church to blossom and thrive through the years. Its congregants diligently serve in several capacities—deacons, ministers, Sunday school teachers, missionaries, choir members, ushers, musicians, and so much more. Churches like Antioch are significant parts of our history and their stories are anchors in the African American faith community.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to pay tribute to this fine congregation for its dedication, endless faith, and the love it has shown to the community. As we learn from Acts 11:26, Barnabas found Paul in Tarsus and brought him to Antioch where they spent a whole year assembling themselves with the church, and teaching and it was there that the disciples were first called Christians."

I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Antioch Missionary Baptist Church and wishing its congregation God's blessings in the days ahead.

### HONORING GUSTAVO AVIÑA

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gustavo Aviña, whom I have named the California 4th District's 2025 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year for Napa County because of his tireless dedication to sustainable viticulture and environmental stewardship.

Mr. Aviña was born in Michoacán, Mexico, and immigrated to the United States with his wife, Blanca, in 1988. They settled in our Napa Valley, where they raised their two children, Gustavo Jr. and Jessica. Mr. Aviña began working with some of the finest vineyard management programs in the region before joining Pine Ridge Vineyards in 2003. His deep connection to the land and commitment to sustainability led to his promotion to Viticulture Director for the vineyard in 2019.

With over 30 years of experience, Mr. Aviña has helped shape Pine Ridge Vineyards into a leader in sustainable viticulture. He walks every vineyard block weekly, cultivating grapes with care, precision, and a firm belief in environmental responsibility. Under his lead-

ership, Pine Ridge Vineyards has implemented industry-leading sustainability efforts, transitioning to dry farming, achieving Napa Green Vineyard certification, applying compost and practicing proactive forest management and committing to carbon neutrality.

Mr. Aviña has also been a mentor to others on climate-smart agriculture. He leads Pine Ridge's dry farming pilot program and has made the commitment to eventually transition all the vineyard's replants to dry farming. Mr. Aviña presented on these efforts at the 2024 Napa Green "Future of Water" summit and will present at the 2025 Regeneration, Innovation, Sustainability, Empowerment (RISE) Climate and Wine Symposium, establishing himself as a trusted voice in sustainable viticulture in our wine community.

Beyond his work in the vineyard, Mr. Aviña is committed to educating and mentoring individuals in our agriculture community. As a member of the Napa Valley Farmworker Foundation's Education Committee and as a mentor in the organization's Fields of Opportunity program, Mr. Aviña has helped provide educational and professional development opportunities to over 3,000 farmworkers annually. He has developed and led classes, seminars, and field days with the organization, covering topics from irrigation and vineyard management to climate science and innovation. Mr. Aviña also helped launch the Napa Valley Farmworker Foundation's Climate Science Seminar Series, equipping farmworkers with tools to adapt to extreme weather and build resilience in the face of climate change.

Additionally, Mr. Aviña has served as a pruning contest judge for the Napa Valley Farmworker Foundation's STOMP fundraiser and previously served as secretary of the English Learners Advisory Committee for the St. Helena School District. When he is not in the vineyard or the classroom, Mr. Aviña enjoys cheering on Gustavo Jr. at his college soccer games and celebrating the achievements of Jessica, a nurse practitioner and soon-to-be mother.

Mr. Speaker, Gustavo Aviña's leadership in sustainable farming and dedication to Napa Valley's farmworker community set a powerful example. His leadership in carbon neutrality efforts, dry farming mentorship and farmworker education exemplifies the positive impact an individual can have on their industry and community. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor him here today as Napa County's 2025 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year.

### CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAYTON DRAGONS

### HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2025

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, this year the Dayton Dragons celebrate their 25th season of baseball in my hometown of Dayton, Ohio. One of my proudest achievements as mayor of Dayton was building the baseball stadium and working with the Dragons ownership to bring the team to the city.

The Dragons have helped revitalize downtown Dayton. They have given baseball fans 25 seasons of enjoyable family entertainment, and continue to generate an enormous