

Furthermore, Mr. Bussey is a longtime active member of St. James AME Church where he is an officer, a member of the Sons of Allen, and a soloist with the choir. He has volunteered with the Ambassadors of the Columbus Visitors Bureau and has appeared on stage and performed in musical productions at the Liberty Theater, the Three Arts Theater, and the Columbus RiverCenter. He is known for his skills on the dance floor which he continues to exhibit regularly at local senior center ballroom dance activities.

Mr. Bussey continues to live a selfless and generous life, serving as a proud Christian, father, husband, and friend and has been blessed with four children, James Jr., (Deceased) Janet, Margaret and Michael. I have known Mr. Bussey and the Bussey family for almost 60 years. He is one of the finest human beings that I have ever met in my lifetime. None of the success that he achieved in life would have been possible without the Grace of God as well as the love and support of his loving wife, Marguerite, his children, other extended family members and friends. He is an example of what Jesus meant when he said, "He that is great among you shall be a servant and he that is greatest among you shall be a servant unto all."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me and my wife, Vivian; along with the more than 765,000 people of the Second Congressional District, in extending our best wishes to Mr. James A. Bussey, Sr. on the occasion of his 99th birthday. As we celebrate yet another year of Mr. Bussey's remarkable life, we would all do well to follow the example of his legacy: striving to improve the quality of life of others by giving away the gift of his extraordinary life for the betterment of his community and all humanity. May God continue to bless him with life, health, joy, and happiness.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
REVEREND JAMES D. PETERS, JR.

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commemorate the life of Reverend James D. Peters, Jr., a titan of civil rights, a moral leader in Denver's faith community, and a man who dedicated his life to lifting up the voices and needs of the most vulnerable among us. Reverend Peters leaves behind a powerful legacy of faith in action, tireless advocacy, and an unwavering commitment to Justice.

Born in an era marked by deep segregation and inequality, Reverend Peters found his calling at the intersection of ministry and the Civil Rights Movement. He marched alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Selma, Alabama, crossing the Edmund Pettus Bridge in 1965 in the fight for voting rights. He was present at the founding meeting of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. But as those closest to him will attest, Reverend Peters did not merely honor history—he made it, lived it, and carried its mission forward in Denver.

Reverend Peters moved to Denver in 1978 to serve as the pastor of New Hope Baptist Church—a position he held with distinction for nearly three decades. Through this ministry,

he became a spiritual anchor, civil rights leader, and moral conscience for the city. Though he was never a candidate for public office, he helped shape public life in Colorado. He chaired the Colorado Civil Rights Commission and served as a trusted voice within the Colorado Democratic Party, always pushing for a broader, more inclusive vision of Justice.

Reverend Peters was truly a man of deep conscience and unwavering resolve. He stood up for what was right—even when it was not popular—and he never lost the fire that fueled the Civil Rights Movement. He always stood firmly with community leaders demanding justice and systemic reform. His presence gave strength to all Denverites and lent moral clarity to those fighting for change.

His advocacy extended far beyond politics and deep into people's lives. Reverend Peters inspired countless elected leaders, including State Senator Rhonda Fields, whom he encouraged to run for office after the tragic loss of her son. On a personal note, Reverend Peters was a friend and confidante of mine for many years, generously sharing his wisdom and advice.

Reverend Peters was not only a champion for civil rights, he was also a unifier. As his ministry reached across the racial divides, he reminded us that faith calls us not only to believe, but to act, not only to pray, but to serve, not only to hope, but to build.

He loved the Rockies. He loved the Broncos. He loved his friends. And above all, he loved his church and community.

Today, Mr. Speaker, we honor the life of Reverend James D. Peters, Jr., a man who walked with history, who shepherded a city, and who never ceased to care for the people of Denver and beyond. May we carry forward his vision of justice, compassion, and unity.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM "BILL"
LEONARD CHIN, FORMER CATHAY POST NO. 186 COMMANDER
AND WORLD WAR II VETERAN

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize William "Bill" Leonard Chin for his many years of dedication to our country, both through his military service and active involvement within the Seattle Chinese-American and Veterans communities.

Bill valiantly served during World War II in the U.S. Army with the 93rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in the Central European Campaign and the Battle of Rhineland, and his dedication to service continued long after his active military duty. Upon graduating from Seattle University, Bill pursued a career as an accountant at Boeing and then as a life and health insurance broker, where he spent over 50 years serving numerous clients in the Seattle Chinese community. He displayed exemplary work ethic and was widely known for his willingness to help others.

Outside of his career, Bill carried this same unceasing devotion to serving those around him. He played an instrumental role in creating the Oriental Restaurant Association in 1970, which provided a healthcare plan for Chinese restaurant workers. He was also a committed

member of Cathay Post No. 186, where he served as Commander and contributed to fundraising efforts for the Kin On Nursing Home and youth scholarships. Additionally, Bill served as the English secretary for the Gee How Oak Tin Family Association and the Bing Kung Association, and as an officer of the Chinatown Chamber of Commerce. He left a resounding impact on all those around him and was a true leader of the various communities he was part of.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Bill Chin for a lifetime of service to the United States of America and to his community. I am deeply grateful for his important efforts towards protecting our country, advancing healthcare access, and fostering connection. His legacy will not be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE DUNN LORING
WOODS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Dunn Loring Woods Civic Association on the occasion of its 60th anniversary.

Located in the heart of Fairfax County and the 11th Congressional District of Virginia, the Dunn Loring Woods neighborhood consists of approximately 550 homes situated on about 300 acres.

By the summer of 1964, construction of the homes was complete. The next spring, residents formed the Dunn Loring Woods Civic Association (DLWCA) to enable the community to speak with one voice on local issues and seek improvements in the neighborhood.

Dunn Loring Woods is known as an exceptionally warm, friendly, and welcoming neighborhood. Many of the original owners still reside there, and those who have moved often return to attend community events such as block parties. Residents tell stories of young residents helping their elderly neighbors, and civic association meetings that more closely resemble friends stopping by to chat.

By May 1965, the Civic Association was formally organized, allowing Dunn Loring Woods residents to pursue a voice in county government and improvements in the neighborhood.

Over the last 60 years, Dunn Loring Woods has led the effort to promote civic pride among its residents, inform the community about local and regional issues that affect the residents, and advocate for land use policies and public service investments that benefit the community. The quality of life and community spirit enjoyed by the residents now is a testament to their success.

As the former president of my own civic association, I know firsthand that when residents invest their time, care, and energies in their communities, it benefits us all.

Fairfax County is considered one of the best places in the Nation in which to work, live, and raise a family, largely because of the willingness of so many to become actively involved.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Dunn Loring Woods on its 60th anniversary and thanking all of the residents for their tireless efforts and dedication to the community and region.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF ST.
PAUL'S A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 100th year celebration of St. Paul's A.M.E. Zion Church and to welcome the Presiding Bishop, His Grace the Right Reverend George D. Crenshaw, and Missionary Supervisor, Mrs. Laurena Crenshaw, to Western New York.

Founded by Reverend John Wesley Jackson in 1925, St. Paul's A.M.E. Zion Church stands as one of the oldest African American churches in the City of Buffalo. As they celebrate 100 years of worship, St. Paul's remains a shining beacon in this community. It is a place where history and hope walk hand in hand, and where the spirit of unity and progress has never wavered.

Under the spiritual leadership of Reverend Amos Goodwine, Jr., St. Paul's continues to thrive. Reverend Goodwine, Jr. brings a wealth of knowledge, compassion, and a vision to his ministry. To celebrate this occasion, St. Paul's A.M.E. has opened their doors to His Grace the Right Reverend George and Mrs. Laurena Crenshaw. Bishop Crenshaw has served nearly four decades in ministry as Pastor, Presiding Elder, and as Bishop. His dedication in faith has led him to shepherd church members throughout the states of South Carolina and Georgia.

As they welcome visitors from across New York State to celebrate this remarkable milestone with uplifting worship services and highlighted events, St. Paul's A.M.E. reminds us that the power of faith brings people together and opens doors for community advancement.

Reverend Goodwine, Jr. and the entire St. Paul's A.M.E. Zion Church represent the very best of the City of Good Neighbors. Their work uplifts lives, unites neighborhoods, and strengthens the bonds that hold our community together. St. Paul's A.M.E. Zion Church continues its efforts to strengthen the Western New York region by continuously expanding its reach and creating even more spiritual connections throughout the community we cherish. Please join me in thanking St. Paul's A.M.E. Zion Church for a century of service to the public.

RECOGNIZING THE ALBANY,
GEORGIA YOUNG MARINES

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievements of the Albany Young Marines of Albany, Georgia, who have been named the National Young Marine Unit of the Year. The group received this well-earned honor at the Young Marines 2025 Adult Leader's Conference in Dallas, Texas on April 26, 2025.

The Young Marines is a nationally renowned nonprofit organization focused on youth leadership and character development. Since its founding in 1959, it has expanded to

over 200 units, with 5,000 youth participants and 1,950 adult volunteers across 40 states, the District of Columbia, Japan, and beyond. Through this program, young men and women cultivate essential values such as leadership, teamwork, and self-discipline.

The Albany, Georgia chapter exemplifies excellence in service, community engagement, and leadership. Under the guidance of Unit Commander Eric Crump and his wife, Adriana, this distinguished unit of 30 youth members and six adult volunteers has devoted thousands of hours to serving their community and supporting local veterans' organizations. Their commitment and dedication earned them recognition as Unit of the Year in the tri-state (Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee) Southeast Regiment of the Year of Division 2, and most recently, National Young Marines of the Year for 2025.

The impact of this remarkable group extends far beyond their unit, bringing together a wide network of supporters. The Albany Area Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee, American Legion Post 30 and Post 512, VFW 2785, Albany State University, Albany Area YMCA, and numerous businesses and individuals have all rallied behind the Albany Young Marines. Moreover, off-duty United States Marines in the community have generously stepped up to mentor these young leaders, further enriching their experience and inspiring them to be the best they can be in service to others.

Former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm once said that "service is the rent we pay for the space we occupy on this earth." The Albany Young Marines truly embody this spirit, and their community is better for it. Their successes have been made possible by the unwavering support of their commanders, family members, dedicated volunteers, and neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the Albany Young Marines and their remarkable contributions to themselves and the Southwest Georgia community. Their dedication, leadership, and service are invaluable, and I am confident that this organization will continue to shape future generations of outstanding young leaders.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF MOUNTAIN'S EDGE COMMUNITY IN CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

HON. SUSIE LEE

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Mountain's Edge community in Clark County, Nevada.

Since its groundbreaking in 2005, Mountain's Edge has grown into one of the most vibrant communities in the southwest area of the Las Vegas Valley. Mountain's Edge sits at the foothills of the Spring Mountains, and was envisioned as a place where residents could live, work, and thrive with the surrounding natural beauty.

Over the past two decades, that vision has become a reality for the more than 40,000 people that call Mountain's Edge home Today,

its residents can enjoy outdoor living with 700 acres dedicated to open green spaces, parks and trails. This award-winning community is home to over 70 diverse neighborhoods with convenient access to strong schools, shopping centers, and other amenities. Not only does its outdoor recreation set it apart, but Mountain's Edge offers its residents a strong sense of community.

I would like to extend my congratulations to the Mountain's Edge Master Association, local businesses, schools, first responders, and all the residents who have helped shape the community's success over the last 20 years. I wish its residents continued success and community spirit for decades to come.

CONGRATULATING WADE WITMER
ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Wade Witmer on his retirement after decades of dedicated and exemplary service to the American public. Mr. Witmer's commitment to public safety is unparalleled, and our country is significantly safer today because of his tireless work throughout his career.

Mr. Witmer began his federal service at the White House Communications Agency, where he served with distinction under four U.S. presidents—George W. Bush, Barack Obama, Donald J. Trump, and Joseph R. Biden. Among his many contributions, Mr. Witmer played a critical role in developing the secure mobile communication system, known as the "Traveling Secure Cell Phone System", housed in the presidential motorcade vehicle. This remains vital to the security operations of the United States Secret Service.

Mr. Witmer was later called upon in the wake of Hurricane Katrina to address a gap in emergency communication capabilities in the U.S. Mr. Witmer was hired to deliver what would become the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS). He led a rapid modernization of the Federal Emergency Alert System, successfully implementing the capability to seize all television broadcasts for presidential alerts and ensuring that broadcast control could be reliably returned to civilian networks following a national alert. Mr. Witmer currently serves as Deputy Director of IPAWS.

After the Presidential Alert System was shown to work as planned, Wade Witmer turned his focus to other public alert systems to further protect civilian lives during emergency and disaster scenarios. He developed and deployed nationwide systems for Tornado Alerts in coordination with the National Weather Service in Oklahoma, Amber Alerts to aid in the recovery of abducted children, and Silver Alerts to help locate missing seniors.

Wade's commitment to public safety extends beyond our borders, as he traveled extensively throughout his career to support emergency agencies around the globe in establishing their own cell phone-based emergency alerting capabilities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Wade Witmer for his years of service. Mr. Witmer's retirement marks the