

loss of one of our foremost experts in emergency management communications. May his retirement be filled with health and happiness.

CONGRATULATING ASSOCIATED
GROCCERS, INC. OF BATON ROUGE
ON THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JULIA LETLOW

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Ms. LETLOW. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the 75th anniversary of Associated Grocers, Inc. of Baton Rouge. For 75 years, this organization has been a steadfast partner to locally owned supermarkets, supporting small businesses, sustaining local jobs, and fostering economic growth across Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas.

Associated Grocers was founded in 1950 by a group of visionary independent grocers who understood the power of collaboration in a competitive marketplace. Over the decades, this cooperative has grown to serve more than 200 independent retailers, a model that strengthens local economies and ensures that consumers have access to fresh, quality foods, even in rural and underserved areas.

Congratulations to Associated Grocers, Inc. of Baton Rouge on this milestone anniversary. May their legacy of service, partnership, and community leadership continue to inspire future generations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I missed roll call votes 125 through 129. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call 125; NAY on Roll Call No. 126; NAY on Roll Call No. 127; NAY on Roll Call No. 128; and YEA on Roll Call No. 129.

REMEMBERING OFFICER DANIEL
CANDELARIO, SR.

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 honor the life of Officer Daniel Candelario, Sr., a beloved husband, father, son, brother, and community law enforcement officer whose legacy of love, compassion, and devotion to his family and the Weston New York community inspired all who knew him.

Born on July 26, 1990, in Buffalo, New York, to Modesto and Lucy (Hernandez) Candelario, and brother to Victoria (Richie) Vasquez, Officer Candelario was surrounded by love from the very beginning. In 2012, he continued that legacy when he married the love of his life, Dariana, affectionately known as "Dottie" after being together since they both were 15 years old. Shortly after, the couple became parents to Daniel "Danny", Jr., Dominic, and Diana Candelario.

He is survived by many who loved him, including his niece and nephew, friends, and his brothers at the Buffalo Police Department. His love for his family and his desire to be there for his community left a lasting impact on all who crossed his path.

Officer Candelario dreamt to become a police officer for more than ten years before he took the leap and joined the Buffalo Police Department, serving more than three years and rising to the rank of MP5 in the department's C District, supporting and protecting community members on the East Side of Buffalo. Officer Candelario is remembered as a dedicated and devoted protector of out community.

Anyone who knew Officer Candelario knew that he had many passions outside of his family and career. He was passionate about fitness, motorcycles, and an avid Buffalo Bills fan. Whether cheering for his home team of sharing his love for motorcycle riding with his wife, Officer Candelario brought joy to those around him.

Mr. Speaker, Officer Daniel Candelario, Sr. lived a life of devotion to his family, his community, and his faith. His unwavering commitment to those he loved and his compassion towards others made a profound impact on all who knew him. Officer Candelario was a man who believed in the importance of family above all else and worked tirelessly to provide for and support those around him. His kindness, loyalty, and the warmth of his heart will forever be remembered. Let us continue to honor his legacy by carrying forward the values he lived by: service, sacrifice, and above all, love.

CONGRATULATING JEROME
NEWELL 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. Jerome Newell on the occasion of his retirement after nearly 50 years of dedicated and exemplary service to the United States Army and the American public.

Mr. Newell has been nominated for the Meritorious Civilian Service Medal for his exceptional performance and leadership throughout his tenure with the Mission and Installation Contracting Command.

He currently holds an Unlimited Contracting Officer's Warrant and has successfully executed many contracts supporting a variety of mission partners, including Fort Belvoir Base Operations Services, Rivanna Station, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Fort Walker, and the Program Executive Office Enterprise Information Systems at Fort Belvoir.

He served with distinction as the Director of Contracting at Fort Meade for two years. He was later selected by the Department of the Army to serve on the Commanding General's Staff as the Army Industrial Property Administrator and Contracting Officer Representative on the first Base Operations Support (BASOPS) contract awarded by the U.S. Army at Fort Gordon, Georgia.

Mr. Newell's service also extended beyond our borders. During the Cold War, he served as Deputy Comptroller of Palmerola Air Force

Base in Honduras. There, he took on the critical role of expeditionary Contracting Officer for Joint Task Force Bravo, successfully terminating and re-awarding contracts essential to mission continuity across Central America.

Following the attacks on September 11, 2001, Mr. Newell was entrusted with the responsibility of establishing the East Coast viewing site for families and members of the media during the Guantánamo Bay federal trials.

He also served as the Department of the Army and Mission and Installation Contracting Command Headquarters' Procurement and Contracting Subject Matter Expert during inter-agency planning meetings for the trial and court-martial of former Private First-Class Chelsea Manning.

As Mr. Newell embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that he will recall, with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment, the outstanding contributions he has made to the United States Army and our Nation. His dedicated service will leave a lasting impact.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Jerome Newell for his many years of service to our armed forces and our Nation. I congratulate Mr. Newell on his retirement. May his life be filled with health and happiness.

RECOGNIZING MR. BOB SANDERS
FOR CYCLING ACROSS THE
UNITED STATES

HON. JANELLE S. BYNUM

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Ms. BYNUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding efforts made by one of my own constituents, Mr. Bob Sanders. Mr. Sanders' feat of cycling across the continental United States at the age of 85 is a true accomplishment. I include in the RECORD the following article, written by Peyton Thomas in the Central Oregon Daily, highlighting the 44-day journey.

85-YEAR-OLD BEND MAN BIKES ACROSS
AMERICA, EYES WORLD RECORD

(Peyton Thomas, Reporter)

BEND, ORE.—After 44 days, thousands of miles and every imaginable type of road, Bob Sanders is back home in Bend.

The 85-year-old just finished biking across the country, becoming the oldest man to complete the feat from coast to coast. Sanders started in San Diego and wrapped up his ride in St. Augustine, Florida, relying on sheer determination and a couple of close companions to get there. "Jack, and then Kathryn. It couldn't have been done without," Sanders said.

His longtime friend Jack Hoker served as his support driver for nearly a month, following Bob's every move across the U.S. "He said, 'Jack, I'm thinking about biking across the United States. Would you be interested in being my support vehicle?'" Hoker recalled. "I thought it over and got back to him and said, 'Yeah, I'll do it.'" The ride wasn't just about miles. It became a journey of connection with the country and its people.

"I have a good feeling about America now because people were so kind and helpful and friendly," said Bob's wife, Kathryn Sanders. "The very best thing about it is to realize

Americans and America is still one country," Bob added. "We all still love our country without a doubt." Sanders is now preparing to submit all the necessary evidence to the Guinness Book of World Records, including GPS data, photos, and witness accounts, in hopes of officially claiming the title as the oldest man to bike across America. "He has determination. He has grit," said Kathryn. "And I think he could show a lot of people what you can do with that." Still, when asked if he'd do it again? "I'm glad I did it," Sanders said "But I'll tell you one thing without hesitation—I wouldn't do it again."

RECOGNIZING THE HONOR FLIGHT OF SOUTHERN OREGON

HON. CLIFF BENTZ

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Mr. BENTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Korean and Vietnam War veterans from Oregon's Second Congressional District who, are visiting their memorials and the WWII Memorial, because of the efforts of the Honor Flight of Southern Oregon. Whenever I have the opportunity to meet these heroes, I am reminded of the words of President Abraham Lincoln: "The struggle of today, is not altogether for today, it is for a vast future also." Our veterans embody this spirit, having fought valiantly in the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Their courage and dedication remind us that the price of liberty is high. It is my privilege to include their names in the RECORD.

Veterans on this Honor Flight from Oregon are: Russell Bronson, Joyce Button, JoAnn Compton Taplin, James Dahl, Chad Davenport, Thomas Davis, David Ford, Jerry Fraley, Thomas Garland, Larry Grow, Eldon Hendrix, Orville Houston, John James, William Kendrick, William Koreger, Walter Lindner, James Little, Kenneth Montgomery, Dennis Paul, Richard Seehawer, Patrick Smith, Gelacio Valdez, Walter Vaughan, Robert Verlezza, and Allen Ayers. We especially honor the memory of Danyl H. Christianer, whose legacy of service will live on through this tribute.

These heroes join over 250,000 Veterans who have been honored through the nationwide Honor Flight Network of volunteers, since 2005.

Mr. Speaker, President George W. Bush once said, "We have been the recipients of the greatest blessings of liberty ever known to man. We live in freedom because others have made the ultimate sacrifice. As a Nation, we must never take for granted, the liberties we enjoy today, recognizing that these freedoms have been hard-won by the honor, commitment, and sacrifice of our Veterans. Each Member in this chamber and every citizen in these United States should be humbled by the courage of our brave Veterans who voluntarily faced danger and adversity to preserve our country and our way of life. Colleagues, please join me in thanking these Veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Southern Oregon for their remarkable service and devotion to our great country.

CONGRATULATING OSLENE DUCADY ON BECOMING AN AMERICAN CITIZEN

HON. AARON BEAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a truly remarkable Journey—the dedication, perseverance, and unwavering commitment that has brought Oslene Ducady to this moment becoming a citizen of the United States of America.

Born in Haiti, the fifth of nine children, Oslene came to this country chasing a dream, not for herself, but for her future children. She moved to Green Cove Springs in the great state of Florida, where she met her husband, Alix.

For 35 years, she built a life, raised six incredible children, and poured her heart into her community. Yet through it all, she nurtured the quiet fire within—a flame fueled by ambition, determination, and the unwavering pursuit of a place to call home.

And this week, that pursuit reaches its pinnacle On Friday, May 16, 2025. Oslene will raise her hand and take the Oath of Allegiance, becoming a proud citizen of the United States of America.

My office was honored to play a small part in helping her navigate the final steps of that journey. Her story is a reminder that the American Dream is not always fast or easy, but it is real, and it is still worth fighting for.

I congratulate Oslene and her family. Today, we celebrate not just a new citizen, but a dream realized.

CELEBRATING VANESSA QUINN

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 celebrate Ms. Vanessa Quinn, R.N., a distinguished nurse, union leader, advocate, and trailblazer from Niagara Falls, New York. Her life's work is a testament to service, compassion and commitment to Justice and community advancement.

Ms. Quinn's contributions to healthcare and labor advocacy are profound. A proud graduate of SUNY Erie, Ms Quinn was part of its first graduating class of Registered Nurses—a landmark moment in the college's history. For nearly four decades, she has served with excellence at Kenmore Mercy Hospital, where her clinical expertise, care and professionalism have earned the respect of colleagues and recognition from countless patients. Her influence extends well beyond the hospital, as vice president of Communications Workers of America Local 1199 and a dedicated member of the New York State Safe Staffing Committee; she has been a tireless advocate for safe patient care, equitable working conditions, and the rights of healthcare workers across the state.

Her leadership was essential during the CWA strike at Mercy Hospital, where she fought for union members' rights and engaged directly with local, state, and federal elected

officials. Thanks to her leadership, the hard-working employees at Mercy earned a hard-won contract with improved compensation and safer working conditions, benefiting patients and workers alike.

In addition to her advocacy, Ms. Quinn is a beloved member of her local community and Episcopal church where she is spiritually guided by Father Curry and Bishop Michael Curly. Her unwavering dedication to helping other is reflected in her generous support providing food, housing, clothing, and transportation to those in need.

Mr. Speaker, Vanessa Quinn's legacy is defined by courage, advocacy, service, and compassion. I ask that I be joined in honoring the remarkable life and enduring contributions of Ms. Vanessa Quinn, RN., a proud daughter of Niagara Falls, New York, a devoted servant to her community, and an inspiring leader whose impact will be felt for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING THE JAMES MADISON HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS TEAM

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the James Madison High School Robotics Team, Team 620, known proudly as the Warbots.

The Warbots participate in the FIRST Robotics Competition, an international high school robotics competition. This year, Team 620 qualified for the FIRST Robotics World Championship held in Houston, Texas, marking only the fourth time in the team's 25-year history that they have achieved this honor.

At the Championship, the Warbots and their robot, "Dory," delivered a remarkable performance, finishing 11th in the Galileo Division's qualification rounds. The team went on to serve as captain of a three-team alliance, selecting partners from India, Canada, and Michigan. They then went against the 5th seeded alliance and won with a score of 228-227.

In addition to their success in Houston, the Warbots had an extremely successful regional competition season. In January, FIRST released this year's challenge, "Reefscape," prompting teams to design, build, and automate their robots in under two months. During District Competitions in March and District Championships in early April, Team 620 captured the Excellence in Engineering Award and the Autonomous Award. Their alliance won the Alexandria event and earned the highest score of the year in the FIRST Chesapeake District.

I include in the RECORD, the eighteen students who represented James Madison High School at the World Championship:

- Josh Lauro; Graduating Senior
- Annabelle Hallworth; Graduating Senior
- Nick Abbott; Graduating Senior
- Daphne Jaillon; Graduating Senior
- Davin Meggers; Graduating Senior
- Noah Weintraub; Graduating Senior
- Zach Sinclair
- Michelle Cerga
- Isaac Gantsoudes
- Theo Tatro
- Thomas Santonicola