

HONORING THE RIO VISTA
BRACERO FARM

HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, as we observe National Historic Preservation Month this May, I rise to honor the legacy of the Rio Vista Bracero Farm in Socorro, Texas. A site that serves as a testament to the resilience and contributions of migrant laborers and their profound impact on our Nation's agricultural history.

The Rio Vista Farm was established in 1915 as El Paso County's "Poor Farm" and has served various purposes over the years. From 1951 to 1964, it functioned as a key hub for the Bracero Program, facilitating over 4.6 million border crossings for Mexican agricultural workers under challenging conditions. In recognition of its national significance, the Rio Vista Farm was designated a National Historic Landmark by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior in December 2023. This designation highlights the contributions of Latino excellence and presence in our Nation's history and our community.

As we celebrate National Historic Preservation Month, let us reflect on the importance of preserving our Nation's diverse history and the importance of it. The Rio Vista Farm serves as a powerful reminder of the contributions of migrant laborers and their stories.

I commend the City of Socorro, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and all involved in these preservation efforts. By working together, we can preserve the culture and heritage of the Rio Vista Farm and the Braceros across the country.

HONORING BEATRICE PRYOR

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Quitman County Administrator, Beatrice Pryor.

Beatrice Pryor was born in February 1992 to the late Lena Marie Pryor in Crenshaw, Mississippi. She is the youngest of three siblings, including McRickey and Ericka Pryor. In her early years, her mother, Renae Crowder, and her sister, Quanneisha Crowder, adopted and raised her in Darling, Mississippi.

During her formative years in Quitman County, Ms. Pryor participated in the Upward Bound Programs offered by Coahoma Community College, where she developed a keen interest in accounting. This engagement enabled her to undertake college courses while completing her high school education.

Ms. Pryor graduated from Madison Shannon Palmer High School and subsequently attended Northwest Community College, where she completed her degree after only one semester. A proponent of lifelong learning, she graduated from Delta State University in May 2016 with a double major in Finance and Business Administration. She is also a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

In 2017, Ms. Pryor assumed the role of Assistant Economic Development Director for

Quitman County, where she made significant contributions to the county's financial advancement. Her strategic initiatives and resource-seeking efforts were pivotal in achieving improvements through effective networking and grant writing at the regional, state, and federal levels.

In 2021, Ms. Pryor was appointed to the Board of Trustees for Northwest Community College. She has also served as a board member for Mid-State Opportunities and has been actively involved in the Mules & Blues Festival and the Mule Train Historical Society.

Ms. Pryor is the youngest Black woman to serve as the County Administrator in Quitman County. Her responsibilities encompass overseeing and managing the county's budget, marketing strategies, and operational and property functions.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Beatrice Pryor for her dedication to serving Quitman County.

HONORING BILL HIMPLER

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Mr. Bill Himpler, who resides in Virginia, but is a proud native son of Chicago, IL, a man of deep faith, a loving husband, father and grandfather, an attorney, former congressional tax counsel and legislative director, former legislative director at the Department of Housing and Urban Development in the Administration of George W. Bush, and most recently as the President and CEO of the American Financial Services Association, the national trade group representing the consumer credit industry.

Bill is known to many of us in Congress, not only for his longstanding support of the American consumer's access to a wide variety of credit products, but his irrepressible passion and good humor in doing so. Where others might seek to use the politics of division to achieve then organization's goals, Bill has never played a zero-sum advocacy strategy.

Bill's advocacy has focused on how access to consumer credit in its many forms provides real economic opportunity for consumers of all financial standings. In his meetings here on Capitol Hill and in testimony over the years before Congressional committees, he has stressed that the economic opportunity access to some form of credit provides is not simply a luxury for a few, but a civil right for all. In a similar way, while advocating responsible rules of the road for his industry, he is also a stalwart advocate for empowering consumers with the financial literacy tools they need to successfully build a strong and stable financial future. As a result of his leadership, he has made the American Financial Services Association a trusted voice for both the consumer credit industry, but the tens of millions of consumers they serve.

After more than 40 years in Washington, Bill is retiring to enjoy well-earned time with his wife, Mary Sue, his children, Bill, Maggie, Jack and Ruth, his seven, with two more on the way, grandchildren, and his golf game.

The American consumer may not know the name Bill Himpler, but they have benefited

from his efforts over the past twenty years at AFSA, as have policy makers and regulators here in Washington and across the country. I thank him for his service and dedication and congratulate him on an outstanding career.

HONORING REVEREND DR. ARLENE
K. NEHRING

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Reverend Dr. Arlene K. Nehring on the occasion of her retirement as the pastor of the Eden United Church of Christ, in Hayward, California.

Like me, Reverend Arlene was born in Iowa. She has dedicated her life to ministry and started on the path that led her to pastoral service when she was just 14 years old. Reverend Arlene found her way to California when she joined the Eden United Church of Christ in November 2002, serving as lead pastor and teacher, staff supervisor, pastoral care provider, and community organizer, and retiring as the church's Senior Minister and Executive Director.

Prior to joining the Eden United Church of Christ, she served at the Council for Health and Human Service Ministries, the Park Church, and the Old South Church in Boston. She earned a Master of Divinity Degree from the Andover Newton Theological School and a Doctor of Ministry from the Chicago Theological Seminary.

Throughout her career, Reverend Arlene has worked tirelessly to help immigrant families throughout the Eden area. Under her leadership, the Eden United Church of Christ has provided sanctuary to immigrants and has coordinated interfaith accompaniment ministry with asylees, including unaccompanied immigrant youth and children from Central America, Mexico, and Colombia. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Reverend Arlene worked to coordinate Eden's meal program to continue serving its community, many of those who relied on public schools that were closed for their breakfasts and lunches.

As Reverend Arlene enters retirement, I reflect on her career with immense gratitude for all that she did to serve our community over the last 23 years. I wish Reverend Arlene and her spouse, Stephanie, rest, relaxation, and the best of luck in this new chapter of their lives.

RECOGNIZING DR. HUU VO

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Ms. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th birthday of Dr. Huu Vo and his 50 years of service to the Inland Empire, our Nation, and beyond.

Dr. Vo has led a life of service to his community. He was born on April 4, 1950, in Hue, Vietnam, and in 1968, he graduated valedictorian from Hue National High School. Following his graduation, he attended medical

school in Saigon. While in medical school, he founded and became President of the Association of Hue Students, eager to connect with others from his hometown. Additionally, he volunteered with the Vietnamese Red Cross, leading him to assist refugees in the ongoing war after becoming an accredited doctor.

On April 29, 1975, shortly after graduating from medical school, Dr. Vo fled by Navy Ship to escape communist rule, and on May 15, he arrived at the Guam Orote Point Refugee Camp where he volunteered as a physician at the Army hospital. A month later, he served at Camp Pendleton and eventually settled in Gardena, California.

In 1976, he passed the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates. Before his eager return to the medical field, he worked a multitude of jobs: as a counselor for the Los Angeles Unified School District, as a clerk at the Alpha Beta Supermarket, as an instructor for a nursing assistant class, and as an Administrator for the Comprehensive and Training Act Program at the Gardena Community Center.

In 1980, after completing his medical residency at the University Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida, Dr. Vo returned to California and treated people at Lanterman State Hospital in the Department of Developmental Services. He worked there as a physician, Chief Medical Staff, and as the Coordinator of Medical Services.

In May of 1982, Dr. Vo joined Pomona Valley Hospital and a medical practice in Pomona. His involvement in our community has been vital not only through his medical expertise but also through his volunteer work and engagement with Pomona's Vietnamese community.

Dr. Vo has been a dedicated and active member and leader of our local Pomona community. He has served as the Board Director of both the Red Cross of Pomona and the YMCA, and as a Board Member of Cal Poly's National Youth Program and Pomona's Growth and Development Group. He also contributed to Police Chief Wood's Police Department Advisory Board.

Additionally, Mr. Vo is admired for his strong engagement with the Vietnamese community of Pomona Valley where he has served as a Board Member, President, and Advisor, before becoming Vice President of the Vietnamese Community of Southern California. In 1992, he founded the Vietnamese American Community of USA, where he later was a Co-Chair, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, President, and currently serves as an Advisor. In 2016, Dr. Vo founded and co-chaired the United Council of Vietnamese Homeland and Overseas (UNCVHO). For the past six years, he has been the President and Co-Chair of UNCVHO.

Dr. Vo has been recognized by fellow members of the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Family Physicians, and the American Board of Physician Specialists for his remarkable accomplishments. He has been awarded the Distinguished Humanitarian Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award from Marquis Who's Who In America. Additionally, he was in the Global Directory of Who's Who as the Top Doctor of 2013.

For his outstanding accomplishments, it is my honor to recognize Dr. Huu Vo. His service and commitment to both California and our Nation are worthy of the highest commendation.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SANDUSKY LIONS CLUB

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I have the honor of representing Ohio's 9th Congressional District, a region that embodies the industrious spirit, deep-rooted history, and civic vitality of our great state. Today, I am privileged to join in commemorating an extraordinary milestone in our community—the 100th Anniversary of the Sandusky Lions Club, a century of unwavering dedication to service, vision, and compassion. Therefore, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation:

Whereas, the Sandusky Lions Club, founded on May 7, 1925, at the historic Cedar Point convention of Lions International, has served the people of Sandusky, Ohio, with humility, integrity, and remarkable commitment to community welfare; and

Whereas, the Club rose to answer Helen Keller's historic call at that 1925 convention to become "Knights of the Blind in the crusade against darkness," a challenge it has fulfilled through tireless efforts to combat preventable blindness and provide critical services such as eye exams, glasses, and surgeries to those most in need; and

Whereas, the Sandusky Lions Club is a proud chapter of Lions Clubs International, the world's largest service organization, with more than 1.4 million members in over 48,000 clubs spanning 200+ countries, dedicated to empowering volunteers, fostering peace, and advancing humanitarian goals; and

Whereas, for a full century, the Sandusky Lions Club has strengthened civic life through volunteerism, youth support, health initiatives, and global outreach, earning the enduring respect of its community and setting a gold standard for service organizations across our nation; and

Whereas, the centennial celebration to be held at Cedar Point on May 17, 2025, honors not only the deep roots of the Club's founding but also its enduring legacy of leadership and care, carried forward by generations of devoted members;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, representing Ohio's 9th Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives, do hereby formally recognize and congratulate the Sandusky Lions Club on its 100th Anniversary.

Let this centennial stand as a beacon of what community, compassion, and collective action can achieve. May the Sandusky Lions Club continue to thrive and inspire for the next hundred years and beyond.

MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH DEDICATION

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication of the historic Mount Olive Baptist Church in Mount Olive Township, New Jersey. On June 7th, the community will gather to celebrate the completion of a renovation project, honoring the legacy of this

cherished place of worship. The Mount Olive Baptist Church has been a cornerstone of faith, fellowship, and community for generations. Its restoration represents not only the preservation of an important historic landmark but also the enduring strength of the congregation and the broader Mount Olive community. I commend the Mount Olive Township and the Mount Olive Township Historical Society for their dedication to this project. Their efforts ensure that future generations will continue to find connection and purpose within the church's walls. As we mark this special occasion, I extend my congratulations to the church leadership, parishioners, and community members whose vision and hard work brought this renovation to fruition. May the Mount Olive Baptist Church continue to serve as a beacon of faith and hope for many years to come.

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF THE BUFFALO NIAGARA HERITAGE VILLAGE LOCATION SITE

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 the Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village as it celebrates 50 years at its current site, a remarkable milestone. The Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village marks five decades of exceptional work preserving the agricultural history and rural heritage of the Buffalo Niagara region. The Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village exemplifies the commitment of our community to honor and share the stories that have shaped our past and continue to inform our future.

Since moving to its current location, the Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village has grown into a dynamic institution. Beyond its present role in preservation, the Village actively creates an educational institution that cultivates a deep appreciation for our local history. Visitors quickly realize that it is more than a museum—the Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village is a vibrant hub for learning, exploration, and inspiration.

The Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village showcases our region's deep contributions to the broader American story, sparking curiosity and instilling pride in all who visit. Through immersive hands-on experiences, it brings our agricultural heritage to life, inspiring the next generation of leaders, artists, and custodians of our heritage.

Today, as we celebrate 50 years of the location site for the Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village, we also look forward with gratitude and ambition. The museum's continued efforts help to enhance the Western New York region by continuously expanding their reach, and creating even more meaningful connections throughout the community we cherish. Please join me in thanking the Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village's organizers for their years of service to the public.