

and the premier golf community in Central Florida.

As a proud advocate for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community, Don has helped shape and support a generation of business leaders in Orlando. His clients include Michelin-starred chefs, medical professionals, wellness entrepreneurs, and arcade operators—many of whom credit Don not just as their lawyer, but as a mentor and connector.

Don's commitment to community extends far beyond his legal work. He is a former vice president of the Asian American Chamber of Commerce, a founding member and former director of the Greater Orlando Asian American Bar Association, and a past secretary of the Asian Real Estate Association of America's Greater Orlando chapter. In 2024, he was named Entrepreneur of the Year by the AACC. Don also serves on the Leadership Council of SALT Outreach, a nonprofit dedicated to helping individuals experiencing homelessness, and is a board director for the Conductive Education Center of Orlando (CECO), a school for children with motor disabilities.

Through his legal work, leadership roles, and civic engagement, Don is widely recognized as a leader actively shaping Central Florida's future and lifting up the communities he serves.

HONORING MY FORMER LEGISLATIVE AIDE, ISABELLE BOYD

HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 23, 2025

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my former Legislative Aide, Isabelle Boyd, for her service to the people of the Third Congressional District of Mississippi. Isabelle joined my office in the summer of 2023, and was able to build out an impressive, communications program to keep my constituents abreast of important happenings in Washington, D.C., and across Mississippi. Isabelle ran our intern program which gave young people interested in government an opportunity to learn about the legislative process and gain valuable professional experience on Capitol Hill. Isabelle was also an integral part of our legislative team working on pro-life and pro-family policies, as well as religious liberty, arts and humanities, and disabilities.

I am honored to have had Isabelle Boyd in my office for the last two years. She has been an invaluable part of my team. I thank Isabelle for her service to the state of Mississippi. We wish her all the best in law school and beyond.

HONORING THE GRADUATION OF SETH CELLA

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 23, 2025

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask you to rise with me to celebrate the graduation of Seth Cella from Fork Union Military Academy.

Seth Cella, born in 2007, is graduating with honors later this month. Raised by his father, Paul Cella—a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and national security entrepreneur—Seth comes from a proud, multigenerational legacy of military service. His grandfather is a former U.S. Marine. One great-grandfather served in the U.S. Army, and another in the U.S. Navy.

Despite early challenges, Seth emerged with a resilient and compassionate spirit. Seth faced academic barriers that were exacerbated by pandemic-era school closures and insufficient support from public education systems. By the end of his sophomore year, he was struggling both academically and personally—until he made a decision that would alter the course of his life: to attend Fork Union Military Academy. Seth served on the varsity swim team, mentored peers, and rose to the rank of Second Lieutenant, becoming third in command of the entire Corps of Cadets.

Today, Seth graduates not only with academic honors but with an uncommon level of maturity, humility, and strength. He will attend West Virginia University in the fall of 2025 to study kinesiology, with interests in health sciences, athletics, and service.

HONORING THOSE WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE ON MEMORIAL DAY

HON. AARON BEAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 23, 2025

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, standing at Arlington National Cemetery, the weight of history surrounds you—rows of white headstones stretching endlessly, each marking a life dedicated to service. But among them, one site stands apart: the eternal flame at President John F. Kennedy's final resting place. As the flame flickers, unwavering, the words from his inaugural address echo in your mind.

"Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe in order to assure the survival and success of liberty."

President Kennedy spoke those words in 1961, but he could have said them today, or yesterday. More than a declaration, those words are a promise woven into the fabric of American history, upheld by the generations of men and women laid to rest around him. To put it simply, President Kennedy's immortal words encapsulate Memorial Day perfectly.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Memorial Day, a time to commemorate the valor and sacrifices of the brave men and women who laid down their lives in service to our nation. To recall those who enlisted in our armed forces and fought to preserve our American liberties, values, and way of life.

We remember the men who ran ashore the beaches of Normandy to end WWII; those who fought in the snows of Korea; the bravery of those who fought in the impenetrable jungles and unbearable heat of Vietnam; as well as the men and women who were called to serve in the aftermath of 9/11. America is the world's superpower, but our freedom comes at a cost that has included the lives of the brightest and boldest of our Nation.

It is only fitting that on Memorial Day, we find ourselves reflecting on those individuals who so bravely and instinctively risked their all in the face of severe danger. I am reminded of the poignant words of Navy veteran Jack Crawford, who, while serving aboard the USS *Yorktown* when it was sunk during the Battle of Midway in 1942, once stated:

"There aren't many things you can take out of this planet . . . but you can take with you, wherever you go, consciousness of duty faithfully performed."

That which we simply call 'duty,' a word we use freely and do not give the reverence it deserves—is the motto, way of life and heartfelt song of soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guard members, who constantly and without hesitation put their lives on the line for our freedoms.

Mr. Speaker, the men and women who have given their lives in service to this nation are—irrevocably—heroes. When their country called, they answered. No matter how they found their way to service, each took it upon him or herself to serve faithfully and to their fullest, while giving their last measure of devotion to our country.

We owe them more than just remembrance; we owe them gratitude, respect, and a promise to forever uphold the values for which they fought and died.

HONORING TAKEMASA ISHIKURA FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO CENTRAL FLORIDA DURING ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 23, 2025

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Takemasa Ishikura is the president of the Japan Association of Orlando (JAO) and has played a vital role in preserving and promoting Japanese heritage in Central Florida for over two decades. He first came to the United States in 1983 as a performer at Walt Disney World's Epcot Center. What began as a three-month engagement led to the founding of Maturiza, a professional taiko group that continues to perform weekly at the Japan Pavilion in Epcot, delighting millions of guests from around the world. Maturiza has also traveled extensively across the United States to entertain audiences at cultural events and festivals.

In addition to his performance work, Takemasa has dedicated himself to community cultural exchange through the Orlando Taiko Dojo, a nonprofit organization he founded to teach traditional Japanese drumming. His students, ranging in age from 10 to over 80, regularly perform at marathons, festivals, and local events throughout the region.

Beyond drumming, Takemasa has contributed to cultural education as principal of a local Japanese language school and through his leadership of JAO. Since 2000, he has helped grow the Orlando Japan Festival from a small gathering at a restaurant into a major annual celebration in Kissimmee, now drawing over 10,000 attendees. Festival proceeds support Japanese language education and have contributed over \$20,000 to disaster relief efforts nationwide, including California and Hawaii, as well as in Asian countries, including Japan and the Philippines.

In 2015, Takemasa received the Foreign Minister's Commendation from Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, one of only 94 overseas recipients that year. Additional honors include the Commendation Award of the Consul General, recognition by the Orange County Asian Committee, and acknowledgment from Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer for strengthening the Sister-City relationship with Urayasu, Japan. His lifelong dedication continues to inspire cross-cultural understanding throughout Central Florida.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 23, 2025

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was participating in a Congressional Delegation to the Holy See to attend the inaugural mass of Pope Leo XIV and our military plane experienced mechanical problems. I was delayed in returning to the District of Columbia. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 132, and YEA on Roll Call No. 133.

HONORING VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER MIKE ANDERSON

HON. RUDY YAKYM III

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 23, 2025

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the courageous actions of volunteer firefighter Mike Anderson of Buffalo, Indiana, whose selfless service exemplifies the highest ideals of public safety and community commitment.

On April 11, 2025, a vehicle fire near a residence in Winamac, Indiana, escalated into a house fire. Deputy Christopher Parish of the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office arrived on the scene and discovered that the fire had spread to the house, which was rapidly becoming engulfed in flames. Although initial reports indicated that all occupants had evacuated, Deputy Parish heard a voice from inside the burning home. Without hesitation, he broke a window using his flashlight, but dense smoke prevented the trapped individual from escaping. At this critical moment, volunteer firefighter Mike Anderson arrived on the scene.

Together, Deputy Parish and Firefighter Anderson entered the smoke-filled room through the broken window and successfully rescued the individual, pulling him to safety just before the fire overtook the room.

Firefighter Anderson's actions exemplify the highest standards of public service and courage. His quick thinking and fearless response undoubtedly saved a life that day. His heroism serves as an inspiration to us all and underscores the vital role of first responders in our communities.

I thank Mike for his valor and dedication to public safety.

REMEMBERING PHILLIP LAFAYETTE GIBBS AND JAMES EARL GREEN—55 YEARS LATER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 23, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of two young Black men—Phillip Lafayette Gibbs and James Earl Green—whose lives were violently taken 55 years ago on May 15, 1970, on the campus of Jackson State College in Jackson, Mississippi.

Phillip Gibbs was a 21-year-old junior at Jackson State College. He was majoring in political science and planned to attend law school. He was a husband and a father to a young son, Phillip Jr. At the time of his death, his wife Dale was home with their child and pregnant with their second son, Demetrius who would never get the chance to meet his father.

In the late-night hours, nearly 500 rounds of ammunition were fired at students gathered near Alexander Hall. Phillip Gibbs was killed outside the dormitory, while James Green was struck and killed across the street near B.F. Roberts Hall. Twelve others were wounded. The walls and windows of Alexander Hall still bear the scars of that night.

Despite multiple investigations, no one was ever held accountable for the shootings. Local and federal probes concluded that the use of force was excessive and unjustified. Yet, legal doctrines shielded those responsible, and justice we never served.

To this day, the names Gibbs and Green are spoken with reverence in Jackson and beyond. Their memory lives on in the Gibbs-Green Plaza, which stands where blood was once spilled—now transformed into a space of reflection, remembrance, and resolve. In 2021, Jackson State University conferred honorary degrees posthumously on both young men—an acknowledgment of the futures they were denied.

Mr. Speaker, on this 55th anniversary, we do more than remember—we reaffirm our responsibility to tell their story with truth and dignity. Phillip Lafayette Gibbs and James Earl Green were sons of Mississippi whose lives mattered. Their futures were stolen, but their memory fuels our pursuit of justice and accountability.

Let us ensure that future generations know their names—not just as victims, but as young men who deserved to grow old, to dream fully, and to live freely.

In honoring them today, we commit ourselves to building a nation where no young person's life is met with such disregard—and where history is neither buried nor forgotten.

May we speak their names, tell their story, and carry their legacy forward.

HONORING JOSHUA KYONG WON JUNG FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO CENTRAL FLORIDA DURING ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 23, 2025

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Joshua Kyong won Jung is the president of the Orlando Korea Culture Center (OKCC) and the founding pastor of Sunlight Grace Church in Orlando, Florida. He currently serves as the chairman of the Asian American Heritage Council of Central Florida (AAHC-CF), a regional organization dedicated to celebrating and promoting Asian cultural heritage.

Originally from South Korea, Joshua immigrated to the United States at the age of 29 to pursue a Master of Divinity. In 2014, he planted Sunlight Grace Church and, just two years later, led the founding of the OKCC as a community outreach initiative aimed at sharing Korean culture. Despite initial challenges, the growing popularity of K-pop and Korean media helped OKCC gain traction, offering programs such as Korean language classes, cultural events, and food experiences.

Joshua's vision has always been to build bridges between cultures, fostering greater understanding and appreciation among the diverse communities of Central Florida. His leadership, both in ministry and in cultural outreach, continues to make a significant impact on the region, empowering the next generation and bringing communities together through faith, education, and celebration of heritage.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK MAY 18–24, 2025 AND THE CITY OF ANNISTON'S PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 23, 2025

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Public Works Week, which takes place from May 18–24, 2025, and to offer a special greeting to the City of Anniston Public Works Department.

Our public works professionals dedicate their time and talent to maintaining the infrastructure and facilities essential to public health and our quality of life. In Anniston, that work is carried out under the capable leadership of David Arnett and Supervisory staff who oversees a dedicated team of 58 employees.

Without the efforts of the Public Works Department, essential services we all rely on, like safe roads, clean public spaces and functional public buildings—simply could not be provided. The Anniston Public Works team works every day to rebuild, improve and safeguard our transportation systems, structures and facilities.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing National Public Works Week and thanking the City of Anniston's hardworking Public Works professionals, engineers, managers and employees for their unwavering commitment to help maintain our city's health, safety and advancing the quality of life.