

RECOGNIZING IAM DISTRICT 751'S  
NEW EVERETT UNION HALL

**HON. RICK LARSEN**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) District 751 on the opening of the new Everett Union Hall.

The new union hall replaces a previous hall that was dedicated in 1996 and provided space for meetings, town halls, solidarity barbecues, celebrations and other union business.

While the old hall served IAM for nearly 30 years, the building was not suitable to meet the needs of the nearly 16,000 IAM members working at Boeing's Everett facility. In particular, the old hall did not have the capacity to support training for new and future aerospace workers. The new Everett Union Hall will house business representatives, support staff, classrooms, shops, labs and a full training area that will allow IAM to offer certification programs and training in conjunction with Boeing and other organizations.

One of the hardest things in high tech industries is finding a workforce that has the skills and training required to do the work.

This new hall will allow the union to provide hands-on training for generations of aerospace workers, allowing current workers to learn new skills and providing an opportunity for future aerospace workers to get the training they need to find family-wage aerospace manufacturing jobs.

This new union hall is not just a building—it is an investment that will benefit the entire region by building the workforce in Washington state and incentivizing aerospace businesses to keep their work in the region.

Congratulations to IAM, and I look forward to visiting the new hall.

HONORING LATINOS UNITED OF  
LAKE COUNTY (LULC)

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Latinos United of Lake County (LULC) as they celebrate their 30th Annual Cinco de Mayo Festival. This celebration not only honors cultural heritage but also highlights the LULC's three decades of outstanding service to the Latino community in Lake County.

Founded as a grassroots, volunteer-led organization, Latinos United of Lake County has long served as a cornerstone of leadership and support within our region's Latino community. For thirty years, LULC has remained committed to improving the lives of our Lake County's Latino community by promoting education, health, and cultural connection in our area. Its mission includes providing scholarships to local Latino students pursuing or continuing their higher education, organizing cultural events celebrating and preserving Latino heritage, and offering resources supporting the health and well-being of individuals in need.

In addition to its longstanding scholarship program, LULC is involved in broader efforts to support public health, community awareness, and resource accessibility. The organization plays a key role in health-related outreach through its participation in the Climate Health Adaptation and Resilience Mobilization (CHARM) project, where it has been a part of the project's working group and has supported the project's outreach to Spanish-speakers. LULC also uses its Facebook social media page to share countywide news, promote mutual aid efforts such as food and clothing drives, and connect residents with vital services. Furthermore, the organization regularly collaborates with other local partners, including Lake County Tribal Health and Hospice Services of Lake County, and the Lake County Office of Education, to host community events and educational forums.

LULC's Cinco de Mayo Festival, now in its 30th year, is not only a major fundraising event for the scholarship program but also a vibrant celebration of culture and community. The event annually brings together families local agencies, performers, vendors, and neighbors from all backgrounds in a shared space that highlights Lake County's rich cultural diversity. The festival serves as a reminder of the strength that comes from unity, inclusivity, and honoring the many traditions that shape our region.

The success of this year's event, and the continued strength of the organization, would not be possible without the leadership of its current board: Angela Cuellar-Marroquin, President; Roman Arroyo, Vice-President; Ana Santana, Secretary; Maggie Gonzalez, Treasurer; and Anahy Olmedo, Public Relations Chair. Their dedication ensures that Latinos United of Lake County continues to grow and evolve while staying true to its founding purpose.

Mr. Speaker, the story of Latinos United of Lake County is one of resilience, generosity, and community-building. By investing in education, LULC strengthens not only individual lives but the fabric of our entire community, affirming that when we uplift one another, we all rise together. It is fitting and proper that we recognize their 30 years of impact and honor their ongoing contributions to the district and the state.

RECOGNIZING MIKE LASTRA

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Mr. Mike Lastra has made to our community in the aftermath of Hurricane Milton. In addition to providing countless hours of direct support to neighbors and flood victims, he helped coordinate the collection and distribution of emergency supplies, meals and donated services to help those who needed help. A truly selfless leader, Mr. Lastra was a strong advocate for bringing in government and non-profit resources to aid in the recovery process.

It is clear Mike Lastra has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

RECOGNIZING JULISSA MARTINEZ

**HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Julissa Martinez for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Julissa has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Julissa, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Julissa's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Wheat Ridge High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Julissa Martinez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING THE CU CENTER FOR  
COMBAT AND BATTLEFIELD RESEARCH  
AND THE MARCUS INSTITUTE FOR BRAIN HEALTH

**HON. GABE EVANS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. EVANS of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Center for Combat and Battlefield Research (COMBAT) and the Marcus Institute for Brain Health (MIBH) at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora, Colorado. I honor their commitment to improving the health of our military, veterans, and first responders.

The MIBH is a global leader in brain injury research and health care delivery, providing individualized, innovative brain health care for our nation's heroes. To this date, MIBH has served more than 1,200 of our nation's heroes, including over 1,000 veterans, establishing a course of treatment for physical, emotional, and cognitive changes that can accompany trauma to the head for these individuals. In 2025, the MIBH is expected to serve 300 patients, including active-duty military and first responders.

Since its founding in 2019, the CU COMBAT Center has grown into the largest military medicine-focused research center, charged with solving our warfighters' toughest medical challenges through high-impact research, education, and innovation. Due to their work, the military has updated 14 clinical practice guidelines, including defining optimal oxygen delivery targets. It is continuing to lead efforts in clinical trials to identify, test, and evaluate autonomous medical devices for prehospital use, such as autonomous oxygen titration, to improve military medical capability and capacity. Not only does the COMBAT Center drive innovation to improve outcomes following physical injury and trauma, but it is also a national leader in advancing psychological health and readiness. COMBAT investigators have contributed to federal and DOD policy, instructions, and programs to reduce suicide among service members, first responders, and their families.

As a veteran and former first responder, I know that the research, innovation, and clinical work that the COMBAT Center and MIBH conduct are critical for caring for veterans, active-duty military personnel, and first responders who risk their lives daily for their communities. I am proud to honor the care and medical research being led by the CU COMBAT Center and MIBH and thank them for their service to Colorado and our Nation.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VETERANS AFFAIRS FRESNO MEDICAL CENTER

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 75th anniversary of the Veterans Affairs Fresno Medical Center and their commitment to providing quality health care and services to Central Valley Veterans.

The official dedication ceremony for the Fresno Veterans Hospital was held on March 19, 1950. This marked the establishment of VA Central California Health Care System's (VACCHCS) primary facility on an 18.5-acre lot in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley.

With the vision to empower veterans through partnership, the hospital partnered with the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Medical School in 1975 to enhance clinical studies and medical training opportunities, this partnership still exists today. Several construction projects were completed from 1981 to 1982 including a new outpatient clinic, 60-bed Geriatric and Extended Care Unit, Milo E. Rowell Auditorium, and Liberty and Education buildings. These new buildings housed numerous new and improved services such as primary care, community development and civic engagement, research and education services, and the Women's Health Program.

In 2008, the Women's Health Clinic moved into their new office on the 4th floor where they continue to support the health and dignity of female veterans. Two years later, the Research and Development Department was established to develop VA scientists and innovations to advance health care practices in hospitals across the Nation. The Fresno hospital's mental health services and capacity were greatly expanded through the completion of the Valor, Freedom, and Independence buildings. Physical medicine, rehabilitation, and prosthetics services were also upgraded in this expansion. Most recently, the Community Living Center (CLC) was built, providing 60 additional beds for veterans that require long-term nursing and rehabilitative care.

Today, more than 41,000 veterans choose to receive their healthcare from the VA Fresno Medical Center. The biggest contributors to the hospital's sustained success are the staff and volunteers dedicated to improving the lives of veterans and their families. They are the reasons the VA Fresno Medical Center has been a staple of the veteran community and the Central Valley for 75 years and counting.

Mr. Speaker, for the past 20 years, I've had the honor of representing the Fresno VA Medical Center in Congress, and it has been a privilege to witness the continued success of

the hospital over the years. I proudly invite my esteemed colleagues to join me to celebrate VA Fresno Medical Center's legacy of quality care. May we continue to support their service to Central Valley Veterans.

HONORING THE LIFE OF  
DELEGATE BARNIE DAY

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of a colleague and member of the Virginia House of Delegates, Delegate Bernie Day, who passed away on May 12th at the age of 72.

Born in 1952, Delegate Day grew up in North Carolina. An early part of his character development came in high school when Delegate Day started a job working in an aluminum factory for \$1.85 per hour.

After finishing school at the University of North Carolina in 1975, Delegate Day looked for opportunities in journalism. He worked for small newspaper organizations in North Carolina and Kansas City. During this time, he developed a great journalistic acumen.

Southwest Virginia soon became home to Delegate Day and his wife, Debbie. They first moved to Floyd County before settling in Patrick County.

It was in Patrick County where Mr. Day blossomed as a local official and community leader. As county administrator, he strived for the best interests of Patrick County and worked to improve his community.

His service to Patrick County included stints with critical institutions like the First Bank of Stuart Board of Directors, Tri-Area Health Clinic and the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

The people of Patrick County appreciated and praised Mr. Day for his work on their behalf. He earned such high marks that they elected him to the Virginia House of Delegates in 1997.

I served in the state legislature alongside Delegate Day during his two terms in office. He showcased incredible oratory skills and passionate advocacy for rural Virginia. Members of both parties appreciated his storytelling.

Delegate Day's stories often featured "Cornbread", a fictional character whose endeavors served as the building blocks of Day's arguments on legislation.

Given his exceptional verbal skills and mastery of the English language, one Virginia political commentator called him "Virginia's Mark Twain."

The legacy of Delegate Day is to be commended and celebrated by rural Virginians. His life of honorable service and love for helping others made Delegate Day an outstanding figure that future community leaders can look to as inspiration.

HONORING DR. ROSE M.Z. GOWEN  
FOR SIXTEEN YEARS OF PUBLIC  
SERVICE

**HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Rose M.Z. Gowen for 16 noble years of public service as City Commissioner At-Large "B" for the City of Brownsville, Texas.

Dr. Gowen was elected in 2009 and has served in office since then. In her time as City Commissioner, she has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to public health and improving the quality of life for all the residents of Brownsville.

Dr. Gowen's dedication to promoting healthy lifestyles in our community has not gone unnoticed. Her work has led to many programs which have proven beneficial to the health and wellbeing of our community. These programs include the establishment of the Brownville Farmers' Market and the CycloBia event, which provide nutritious food and exercise through cycling, respectively.

In addition, Dr. Gowen also spearheaded the RGV Challenge, an annual 12-week health initiative which has encouraged massive community change in health and wellness. This in addition to her leadership in advocating for sustainable infrastructure such as the Carcara Trails, which is nearly 430 miles of outdoor trails connecting communities across South Texas.

All these projects highlight Dr. Gowen's loyal commitment to the betterment of our community. Brownsville is lucky to have public servants who display this level of dedication and drive to create positive change in our region. I am proud to represent communities like Brownsville and the wonderful public servants who continue to make it a better place to live.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Dr. Rose Gowen for celebrating 16 years of public service.

HONORING KIARA D. BURRELL'S  
SERVICE TO THE COMMITTEE ON  
HOMELAND SECURITY

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, as Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security, I rise to honor Ms. Kiara D. Burrell upon the conclusion of her service to the committee as a detailee from the U.S. Secret Service.

Over the course of her 15-year career with the Secret Service, Ms. Burrell has distinguished herself as a dedicated public servant and a strategic leader. Ms. Burrell has led long-term fraud investigations and protective operations in support of dignitaries and major public events. Ms. Burrell has consistently been selected above her peers to coordinate domestic and international visits for several Presidents of the United States and their families. She also served as the Lead Advance Agent for the longest domestic visit involving