

to state champions is an inspiring narrative for us all. It underscores the critical importance of dedicated educators and mentors in supporting our public schools and empowering young people to achieve their fullest potential. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Assistant Coach Ron Thomas and the entire Dyett High School boys' basketball team on their momentous achievement and a honoring them for the inspiration they provide to communities across our Nation.

HONORING THE LOUDOUN
APPALACHIAN TRAIL FESTIVAL

HON. SUHAS SUBRAMANYAM

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Sixth Annual Loudoun Appalachian Trail Festival hosted in Hillsboro, Virginia on June 7, 2025.

The Appalachian Trail is one of the most famous trails in the world, covering over 2,190 miles of land across the United States and attracting over three million visitors each year. The trail traverses Western Loudoun County for thirty miles next to the Shenandoah Valley, offering our community the opportunity to hike, walk, and explore nature.

The trail is maintained by the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, and the thousands of volunteers who work every day to care for the trail and ensure it remains accessible for visitors.

The Loudoun Appalachian Trail Festival is a time to come together and celebrate the trail, outdoor recreation, and the joy of hiking. As a dad of two young girls, I want to make sure we preserve the parks and trails of America so that future generations can continue to enjoy the great outdoors.

I thank the organizers and sponsors of the Loudoun Appalachian Trail Festival for hosting this wonderful event.

CERTIFICATE OF CONGRESSIONAL
RECOGNITION PROCLAMATION
PRESENTED TO APOSTLE DR.
DANA CARSON IN HONOR OF 40
YEARS OF MINISTRY

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise. I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation recognizing Dr. Dana Carson for 40 years of service:

Whereas, Apostle Dr. Dana Carson hails from Chicago, Illinois, and is the Founder & Senior Pastor of the Reflections of Christ's Kingdom World Outreach International (R.O.C.K.) church in Houston, Texas, serving ministry for 40 years full-time through Executive and Pastoral leadership roles; and

Whereas, Apostle Dr. Dana Carson is a testament to resilience, perseverance, and dedication, overcoming adversity as a high school dropout by pursuing higher education and earning three doctoral degrees from Regent University, Logos University, and Bos-

ton University Graduate School of Theology, along with four master's degrees, as well as several executive certifications. He is the founder and chancellor of the Kingdom Bible University and Kingdom Theological Seminary; and

Whereas, Apostle Dr. Dana Carson is a globally renowned speaker, scholar, author, and musical artist featured on broadcast television networks, releasing more than 260 books, devotional guides, as well as curricula; and through his music, delivering a powerful message of hope and resilience; and

Whereas, Apostle Dr. Dana Carson was recognized by President Barak Obama and was bestowed the Lifetime Achievement Call to Service Award, was honored as one of the Top 50 influential Leaders Worldwide in Pentecostalism and he is an active member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that, on behalf of the constituents of the Ninth Congressional District of Texas, I am proud to salute Apostle Dr. Dana Carson for his 40 years of dedicated service to enriching the lives of his family, congregation, our Nation, and the globe. Best wishes on this momentous occasion.

RECOGNIZING JOHN CURTIS

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Curtis for his promotion to Chief of the South Metro Fire Department.

Deputy Chief John Curtis has served the South Metro Fire Department for over twenty years. In his previous position, John oversaw Emergency Medical Services, dispatch, fleet services, and special operations. His educational background in organizational leadership, along with his extensive on the job experience, has separated him from the other 76 applicants. Our community is fortunate to have an incoming Chief with the years of experience and education that John brings to this role.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate John Curtis on his promotion to Chief of South Metro Fire Rescue. We thank him for his continued commitment to our community.

HONORING JAMAL GILL, II OF
DYETT HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate an extraordinary achievement by a remarkable individual from my district, Jamal Gill, II, a dedicated Assistant Coach for the Walter H. Dyett High School for the Arts boys' basketball team, the Eagles. This team achieved a historic victory, winning the 2024–2025 Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Class 2A State Championship with a decisive 52–41 win over Althoff Catholic High School on March 15, 2025.

This championship is more than just a win on the court; it is a profound testament to the

resilience, determination, and unity of the Dyett High School community and the vibrant Bronzeville neighborhood. A decade ago, Dyett faced the threat of closure, but through powerful community advocacy and unwavering commitment, its doors remained open. Today, the Eagles' triumph, shaped significantly by the guidance and mentorship of coaches like Jamal Gill, II, symbolizes the incredible potential that flourishes when a community invests in its youth and its institutions.

Assistant Coach Jamal Gill, II, alongside Head Coach Jamaal Gill, provided invaluable leadership, strategic insight, and unwavering support throughout the season. His dedication to developing these young athletes, both on and off the court, was instrumental in fostering the skill, discipline, and teamwork that led to this historic victory. His hard work and commitment were integral to the team's success, culminating in this well-deserved championship that brings immense pride and joy to the school, the players, their families, and the entire community.

Mr. Speaker, Jamal Gill, II's contribution to the Dyett journey from near closure to state champions is an inspiring narrative for us all. It underscores the critical importance of dedicated educators and mentors in supporting our public schools and empowering young people to achieve their fullest potential. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Assistant Coach Jamal Gill, II and the entire Dyett High School boys' basketball team on their momentous achievement and honoring them for the inspiration they provide to communities across our Nation.

HONORING 75 YEARS OF
MANCHESTER VAMC

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 75th anniversary of the VA Medical Center in Manchester, New Hampshire and in celebration of 75 years of unwavering commitment to veteran health care.

At the end of World War I, citizens of New Hampshire began advocating for a local veterans hospital in order to properly honor Granite Staters who bravely served their country. After an extensive and hard-fought campaign that made it all the way to Congress, the hospital was granted approval and opened its doors on July 2, 1950.

For 75 years, the Manchester VA has provided compassionate care to countless veterans and their families. From physical therapy to mental health care, the Manchester VA's comprehensive services help many veterans to live happy and healthy lives. The dedicated VA staff create a supportive and encouraging environment where veterans feel empowered to seek the medical help they need.

Guided by the needs of veterans and their families, the Manchester VA remains committed to holistic treatment. The Manchester VA's research program is internationally recognized for the study and treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other serious mental health challenges. A renowned teaching hospital, the Manchester VA actively

trains the next generation of caregivers to ensure that their important work continues for years to come.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to congratulate the Manchester VA on 75 years of devoted service to veterans and their families. We are grateful for your commitment to our community's veterans and I look forward to continuing to support this vital work.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
BARBARA LEONARD HAYES

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mrs. Barbara Leonard Hayes of Carrollton, Texas, who peacefully passed away on April 6, 2025.

Barbara was born on July 8, 1937, in Tom, Oklahoma and was adopted by John and Lena Noll Leonard. She attended Durant High School and graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1958, where she earned her bachelor's degree in education. Barbara began her career as a Flight Attendant for American Airlines out of Chicago, where she was recognized in the World Book Encyclopedia for her unique, vintage title of "Airline Stewardess." Soon after, she moved to Sherman to begin teaching elementary education at Sherman ISD. On June 11, 1960, Barbara married the love of her life, Stanley Joe Hayes, in Durant, Oklahoma. Together, they raised two children and have many more grandchildren.

In addition to her critical work as an educator, Barbara was involved in many community initiatives throughout North Texas. She served as the PTA President at Wakefield Elementary, Cub Scout leader and Den Mother, and a member of many civic and philanthropic organizations. Barbara was also very passionate about rescuing animals, traveling, and most importantly, trusting God. She was a devoted woman of faith and a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Sherman, now the Covenant Presbyterian Church. The kindness, joy, and warmth that Barbara brought with her presence will always be remembered by her loved ones.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capitol in recognition of Barbara's life and contributions to North Texas. She will be dearly missed by her friends, family, and all who knew her.

HONORING NATHAN TOWNSEN OF
DYETT HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate an extraordinary achievement by a remarkable individual from my district, Nathan Townsen, a dedicated Assistant Coach for the Walter H. Dyett High School for the Arts boys' basketball team, the Eagles. This team achieved a historic victory,

winning the 2024–2025 Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Class 2A State Championship with a decisive 52–41 win over Althoff Catholic High School on March 15, 2025.

This championship is more than just a win on the court; it is a profound testament to the resilience, determination, and unity of the Dyett High School community and the vibrant A decade ago, Dyett faced the threat of closure, but through powerful community advocacy and unwavering commitment, its doors remained open. Today, the Eagles' triumph, shaped significantly by the guidance and mentorship of coaches like Nathan Townsen, symbolizes the incredible potential that flourishes when a community invests in its youth and its institutions.

Assistant Coach Nathan Townsen, alongside Head Coach Jamaal Gill, provided invaluable leadership, strategic insight, and unwavering support throughout the season. His dedication to developing these young athletes, both on and off the court, was instrumental in fostering the skill, discipline, and teamwork that led to this historic victory. His hard work and commitment were integral to the team's success, culminating in this well-deserved championship that brings immense pride and joy to the school, the players, their families, and the entire community.

Mr. Speaker, Nathan Townsen's contribution to the Dyett Eagles' journey from near closure to state champions is an inspiring narrative for us all. It underscores the critical importance of dedicated educators and mentors in supporting our public schools and empowering young people to achieve their fullest potential. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Assistant Coach Nathan Townsen and the entire Dyett High School boys' basketball team on their momentous achievement and honoring them for the inspiration they provide to communities across our Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE GOLDEN
POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Golden Police Department of Golden, Colorado, for serving and protecting our community.

We are all grateful to the Department and Chief of Police Joe Harvey, as they strive to maintain a culture of positive public engagement, equity, and compassion for all. Founded in 1874, the department has a long history of dedicated officers working to build public trust through accountability and equitable policing.

National Police Week offers an opportunity to honor law enforcement and pay tribute to those who gave their lives serving their communities. This week, we honor Officer Evan Dunn, who was a member of the Golden Police Department, who tragically passed away in the line of duty in November 2024. Officer Dunn joined the Department after serving as an Army Aviator and Black Hawk pilot in the Missouri and Colorado Army National Guard. As a soldier, an officer, and a devoted husband, Officer Dunn was a servant in every aspect of his life. His legacy of kindness, dedication, and service to our community and our country will not be forgotten.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to thank the Golden Police Department for their devotion to public service in the line of duty.

HONORING GREG BIFFLE AND
RECOGNIZING HIM FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HURRICANE
HELENE RECOVERY EFFORT

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize North Carolina native and NASCAR legend, Greg Biffle, for his courageous and selfless contributions to the Hurricane Helene recovery effort.

In the wake of the chaos and destruction brought about by Hurricane Helene, Mr. Biffle utilized his personal helicopter and piloting skills to assist in emergency rescue efforts. Without hesitation, Mr. Biffle put himself in harm's way by flying into dangerous and unpredictable areas of North Carolina to evacuate stranded individuals, deliver supplies, and support first responders. Mr. Biffle's decisive actions directly contributed to relief efforts and brought aid to those in need.

It is my honor to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Greg Biffle for risking his personal safety to help those in need. In a time of great divide, Mr. Biffle's actions are a reminder of the unwavering American spirit that exists throughout the great state of North Carolina, and the country.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Mr. Greg Biffle for his selfless actions in the wake of Hurricane Helene.

HONORING RON THOMAS OF
DYETT HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate an extraordinary achievement by a remarkable individual from my district, Ron Thomas, a dedicated Assistant Coach for the Walter H. Dyett High School for the Arts boys' basketball team, the Eagles. This team achieved a historic victory, winning the 2024–2025 Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Class 2A State Championship with a decisive 52–41 win over Althoff Catholic High School on March 15, 2025.

This championship is more than just a win on the court; it is a profound testament to the resilience, determination, and unity of the Dyett High School community and the vibrant Bronzeville neighborhood. A decade ago, Dyett faced the threat of closure, but through powerful community advocacy and unwavering commitment, its doors remained open. Today, the Eagles' triumph, shaped significantly by the guidance and mentorship of coaches like Ron Thomas, symbolizes the incredible potential that flourishes when a community invests in its youth and its institutions.

Assistant Coach Ron Thomas, alongside Head Coach Jamaal Gill, provided invaluable