

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT  
OF CHIEF PETTY OFFICER ERIC  
UHR

**HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2025*

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Chief Petty Officer Eric Uhr on his well-deserved retirement from the Coast Guard after 20 years of valiant service. I am honored to represent brave individuals like Chief Petty Officer Uhr for their hard work and dedication to our great Nation. Chief Uhr enlisted in the United States Coast Guard (USCG) on June 27, 2005, and completed basic training at USCG Training Center Cape May in New Jersey.

After his enlistment, he began his military career as a deck seaman aboard the USCG *Edisto* in San Diego, California, before being promoted to Officer in Charge of USCG Aids to the Navigation Team in South Padre Island, Texas. Additionally, Uhr also served as the Executive Petty Officer of this team and the first lieutenant of the USCG Station Port Aransas, Texas.

Chief Uhr has exemplified the valor and dignity in the United States Coast Guard. His dedication to his county has not gone unnoticed, and I wish him a long and happy retirement with his wife and two children.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Chief Petty Officer Uhr on his retirement and honor his 20 years of service to our Nation.

HONORING JAHMIR BROWN OF  
DYETT HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2025*

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate an extraordinary achievement by a remarkable young man from my district, Jahmir Brown, a vital member of 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 (IHSAA) 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, in which Jahmir Brown played a crucial role, symbolizes the incredible potential that flourishes when a community invests in its youth and its institutions.

Jahmir Brown, along with his teammates, demonstrated exceptional skill, discipline, and teamwork throughout their season, navigating challenges and competing at the highest level. His hard work and dedication were integral to the team's success, culminating in this well-deserved championship that brings immense pride and joy to his school, family, and the entire community.

I also extend my deepest gratitude to Head Coach Jamaal Gill, whose visionary leadership and guidance steered the team to this historic victory, and to Assistant Coaches Kimani Harris, Pierre Adams, and Nathan Townsen, Jr., whose mentorship was vital to the players' development.

Mr. Speaker, Jahmir Brown'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 supporting our public schools and investing in programs that empower young people to achieve their fullest potential. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jahmir Brown and the entire Dyett High School boys' basketball team on their momentous achievement and in honoring them for the inspiration they provide to communities across our Nation.

RECOGNIZING TRAVIS SMITH

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Mr. Travis Smith 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. Smith was a strong advocate for bringing in government and non-profit resources to aid in the recovery process.

It is clear Travis Smith 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.

CONGRATULATING LEON RESSLER  
ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. LLOYD SMUCKER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2025*

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor and congratulate Mr. Leon Ressler on his retirement after 37 years with Penn State Extension in Lancaster County.

Across nearly four decades, Leon Ressler has served Penn State Extension, a Pennsylvania-wide educational organization and network focusing on science, agriculture, and the environment, in many roles. Leon's tenure with Penn State Extension began in 1988. Ultimately, he became Lancaster County Extension Director in 2001. Though his titles and duties changed over the years with the reorganization of Penn State Extension, he managed finances, developed budgets, and coordinated with local counties on development and grants. He took a step back from his role in 2017 to become an Extension Educator, where he served on the agronomy team and assisted farms with his expertise in nutrient management, water quality, and sustainable agriculture—just a few of his areas of his vast knowledge of agriculture.

Beyond his time with Penn State Extension, Leon Ressler is a frequent contributor to Lancaster Farming, a churchgoer, a political volunteer, and is himself a farmer in Peach Bottom, Pennsylvania. He holds bachelor's degrees in agronomy and plant science, and has a master's degree in environmental pollution control, all of which are from Penn State.

As he transitions his focus from Penn State Extension back to his farm, I thank Leon Ressler for his service to the agricultural community. His expertise and commitment have positively impacted not just the farmers in Lancaster County, but the health of the people and environment across Pennsylvania's 11th Congressional District. I wish him continued success in all that he does.

NEWSLETTER FROM  
CONGRESSMAN CHUCK EDWARDS

**HON. CHUCK EDWARDS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2025*

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following newsletter to give an update to my constituents on the Hurricane Helene report, reconciliation process, and disaster recovery efforts.

DEAR FRIEND: On January 24th, I had the honor of being selected by President Trump to serve on his special task force to speed up recovery in Western North Carolina. After several months of hearing from constituents and developing plans to pick up the momentum in rebuilding our mountains, I'm pleased to share my report detailing recommendations on how to fix FEMA and accelerate the recovery process.

These recommendations were shared with the White House and the FEMA task force, and I look forward to continuing to work with the President and the task force in the next phase of the process, where we implement some of these recommendations. The report is available here,

ONE COMPREHENSIVE BILL TO DELIVER AN  
AMERICA FIRST AGENDA

The U.S. House has opened the door to the next step in the reconciliation process by passing the Senate's amendment to the House budget resolution.

The House and Senate budget resolution instructs committees to now start drafting a singular bill that will deliver significant savings while protecting essential programs such as Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare.

This bill sets the framework for Congress to deliver a secure border, pro-family and pro-growth tax policies, reliable domestic energy, strong national security, and a healthier economy for the American people. While this resolution doesn't become law, it sets budget goals for specific committees to reduce spending and increase revenue.

The American people have had enough of the government's reckless spending, and reining in overspending starts with passing a reconciliation bill that cuts overall expenditures and results in savings, not adds to the deficit.

Thankfully President Trump, Speaker Johnson, and Majority Leader Thune have made it clear that they are committed to passing a final reconciliation bill that restores fiscal sanity by guaranteeing at least \$1.5 trillion in spending cuts like the budget resolution the House Budget Committee framed.

Now that we've passed the budget resolution, each committee must put forth bills that align with the deficit and revenue-related goals laid out in the resolution. From there, as a member of the House Budget Committee, I will work with my fellow committee colleagues to mark up and compile these bills into one comprehensive bill so we can move forward with fulfilling the America First agenda.

#### WNC RECOVERY BY THE NUMBERS

Western North Carolina, with the support of one another, continues to make strides toward recovery after Hurricane Helene. To highlight some of the progress we've made, I want to share some data about the rebuilding process.

FEMA has approved more than \$420 million in federal assistance for nearly 159,000 households for Helene recovery, including money for rent, basic home repairs, and other disaster-related needs.

More than 7,000 families have received about \$21 million for the repair or replacement of private-access roads and bridges.

The U.S. Small Business Administration has distributed more than \$170 million in low-interest disaster loans.

One of our region's challenges continues to be debris removal, especially from waterways. However, we are making progress. As of recent, more than 6 million cubic yards of debris have been cleared from public right of ways and more than 2 million cubic yards of debris have been removed from our waterways.

Additionally, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced that the Federal Housing Administration is extending its existing foreclosure moratoriums on FHA-insured single-family mortgages in the Presidentially-Declared Major Disaster Areas resulting from Hurricanes Helene and Milton by 90 days. The moratorium was previously set to expire on April 11, but this extension gives Helene victims additional flexibility to seek and obtain the necessary financial assistance to continue putting their lives back together.

This extension in foreclosure relief is welcome news for Western North Carolinians whose lives have been turned upside down by Helene, and I will continue to work closely with the administration to anticipate and advocate for the needs of our mountain folk throughout the disaster recovery process.

#### RECOGNIZING THE GREENVILLE-SPARTANBURG NWS TEAM FOR THEIR LIFE-SAVING WORK THROUGHOUT HELENE

The 2025 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals, or Sammies, are awarded to exceptional federal employees whose accomplishments have built trust in our government and benefited the nation.

When the time came to nominate folks for the Sammies, I immediately knew who has earned this recognition.

Leading up to and during Hurricane Helene, the Greenville-Spartanburg National Weather Service team showcased extraordinary dedication and expertise, saving lives through early preparation and real-time responses.

Helene tragically claimed 250 lives across the southwestern United States, 107 of which were in Western North Carolina, but this death toll would have been far higher without the Greenville-Spartanburg NWS team's efforts. Thanks to their early warnings and actionable guidance, thousands of residents were able to evacuate or take protective measures before the storm hit Western North Carolina.

By setting a high standard for public service, the team not only saved lives during Hurricane Helene, but they also established a benchmark for how federal agencies should

respond to future disasters. I am proud to nominate them for the Sammies award and am grateful for their actions that have undoubtedly saved countless lives.

With my warmest regards,

CHUCK EDWARDS,  
Member of Congress.

#### HONORING JACOB JOHNSON OF DYETT HIGH SCHOOL

##### HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate an extraordinary achievement by a remarkable young man from my district, Jacob Johnson, a vital member of 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, in which Jacob Johnson played a crucial role, symbolizes the incredible potential that flourishes when a community invests in its youth and its institutions.

Jacob Johnson, along with his teammates, demonstrated exceptional skill, discipline, and teamwork throughout their season, navigating challenges and competing at the highest level. His hard work and dedication were integral to the team's success, culminating in this well-deserved championship that brings immense pride and joy to his school, family, and the entire community.

I also extend my deepest gratitude to Head Coach Jamaal Gill, whose visionary leadership and guidance steered the team to this historic victory, and to Assistant Coaches Kimani Harris, Pierre Adams, and Nathan Townsen, Jr., whose mentorship was vital to the players' development.

Jacob Johnson'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 supporting our public schools and investing in programs that empower young people to achieve their fullest potential.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Jacob Johnson and the entire Dyett High School boys' basketball team on their momentous achievement and in honoring them for the inspiration they provide to communities across our Nation.

#### RECOGNIZING SUSAN PUGH

##### HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that

Ms. Susan Pugh has made to our community through her volunteerism with the Pregnancy & Family Life Center. Ms. Pugh is part of a team of selfless and dedicated women who have worked at the Center in Inverness for several years. Their roles include working each week in the food pantry and clothing room. Last year, 472 clients were served, and more than 65,000 pounds of food was distributed. These critical volunteers also ensure families receive essential items for their infants and young children to include: formula, diapers, pull ups, baby wipes and wash, as well as age specific clothing. In 2024, more than 44,000 diapers and 9,500 items of clothing were distributed. These volunteers have a 'can do' attitude no matter how large the challenge. They also have tremendous teamwork. They sort through all donations, retain those appropriate for a pregnancy center and then share other serviceable items with community partners. Ms. Pugh also takes donated blankets which can't be used for infants or children to the local animal shelter along with donated dog food. When volunteers are united in an important mission, it naturally fosters camaraderie which is great for anyone who works or volunteers at the Center. All of these women maintain a loving demeanor and greet each client with a warm smile and conversation (and sometimes a hug). The Center's clients feel welcomed and cared for because of the lived values of love, respect, compassion, and family centeredness that is regularly displayed by these dedicated volunteers. The benefit to the community is great and the impact far reaching.

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

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2025

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 156.

#### PROCLAMATION HONORING TERI GAGE ON HER ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHICAGO'S FIRST NATIONAL PARK

##### HON. ROBIN L. KELLY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2025

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on May 31, 2025, Ms. Teri Gage retired from her position as Superintendent of the Pullman National Historical Park. Today, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation to recognize and honor her accomplishments and contributions to Chicago's first National Park.

WHEREAS, Teri Gage began her long career with the National Park Service in 1986 and worked at eight additional National Parks across the United States;