

producer of grapes, oranges, almonds, pistachios, and cotton. Alongside its agricultural success, Delano has experienced steady commercial growth, attracting major businesses such as Wonderful Citrus, the company behind the widely popular Halos brand.

Delano is also a culturally rich and diverse community, shaped by generations of residents from around the world. Since the arrival of early settlers under the Homestead Act, Delano has welcomed people from Latin America, Asia, and Europe, each contributing to the city's distinct character and traditions.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my congressional colleagues to join me in celebrating Delano on its 110th anniversary, and to honor its rich history, diverse community, and the spirit of those who call it home.

RECOGNIZING HENRY FLOYD
WELLS

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today to recognize the life and service of Mr. Henry "Floyd" Wells who will celebrate his 105th birthday this month—a milestone few ever reach. I join his family, friends, and this grateful nation in celebrating not only the years he has lived, but the legacy he has built through courage, service, and unwavering patriotism. On June 9, 1944—his 24th birthday—Floyd stepped onto a beach in Normandy, France, carrying only a .45 pistol and a sawed-off shotgun. He was one of nearly 133,000 Allied troops who took part in the D-Day invasion. That historic day changed the course of World War II and, ultimately, the course of world history. But behind that massive operation were brave individuals like Floyd—young Americans from small towns like Wauchula, Florida—who answered the call to serve without hesitation. Mr. Wells' bravery, and the bravery of all who fought beside him, helped secure the freedom we enjoy today. He was part of a generation that stared down tyranny, defended liberty, and rebuilt a shattered world. And for that, we are eternally grateful. Floyd's service didn't end when the war did. He came home, built a life, raised a family, and continued to live with honor, humility, and strength. His son, Mike, speaks with great pride about the man he is, and that pride is deeply deserved.

It is clear that Mr. Henry "Floyd" Wells represents the very best of America—commitment, sacrifice, and love of country. I am proud to represent a district that includes heroes, like him. May we never forget that freedom is never free—and that behind every American flag is the story of someone, like Floyd, who defended it. I wish a happy 105th birthday to Mr. Wells. May God bless him and his family, and may He continue to bless the United States of America.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
MR. DAVID GARRISON FROM
DELTA AIR LINES

HON. LUCY McBATH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Mrs. McBATH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary leader, Mr. David Garrison of Georgia, on the occasion of his retirement from Delta Air Lines after 34 years of service to one of our Nation's most respected airlines and a cornerstone of our state's economy. An accomplished business and civic leader, David was recognized as a Delta Chairman's Club honoree—the airline's highest employee recognition—and serves as a Trustee on the Board of Georgia Institute of Technology.

Mr. Garrison began his distinguished career in 1991 as a Propulsion Engineer with Delta TechOps, having earned degrees from both Emory University and the Georgia Institute of Technology. Throughout the decades, David brought deep technical expertise, unwavering integrity, and a profound sense of responsibility to every role he held.

Over the years, David's leadership and vision helped shape Delta's engineering and maintenance operations into a world-class operation. From rebuilding after bankruptcy to navigating the complexities of a major airline merger, his steady hand and commitment to excellence were essential in moments of both great challenge and great progress.

As Senior Vice President of Delta Connection and CEO of Endeavor Air, David led with a heart for people—responsible for more than 20,000 employees. His ability to lead through change while maintaining Delta's standard of excellence earned him the respect of his colleagues and the trust of Delta customers across the country.

In his final role as Delta's Senior Vice President of Corporate Safety and Security, David carried one of the greatest responsibilities at the airline: the safety of over 100,000 Delta team members and millions of travelers worldwide. Under his leadership, Delta strengthened its safety systems and culture, reinforcing its long-standing commitment to making every flight as safe as possible.

Mr. Speaker, David Garrison's career reflects the very best of Georgia values—hard work, humility, and care for others. He has left an indelible mark not only on Delta Air Lines but also on the broader aviation community and on countless lives he has touched throughout his career. On behalf of Georgia's 6th Congressional District, I thank David for his outstanding contributions to Delta Air Lines and to aviation safety and security. I wish him and his family health, happiness, and continued blessings in this next chapter of life.

TRIBUTE TO CHANCELLOR JOHN
SHARP

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of my dearest friends, John Sharp, as he

retires from his role as Chancellor of the Texas A&M University System.

Texas A&M holds a special place in my heart. While I did not have the opportunity to attend A&M, I consider myself an honorary Aggie, having married into a committed, Aggie-loving family. My father-in-law, Lowry Mays, dedicated much of his life to Texas A&M. I will never forget looking into his eyes as he beamed with pride when I told him I would be representing College Station. Lowry was on the Texas A&M Board of Regents when Chancellor Sharp came on as University Chancellor. Though he passed away a couple of years ago, I know he would be overwhelmed with joy and pride to see all the ways A&M has grown and changed in recent years—and that is because of Chancellor John Sharp's leadership.

When A&M was drawn into my district, Chancellor Sharp and I immediately hit it off. We not only created an incredible partnership between the University System and the United States Congress, but we also forged a powerful friendship. He and I made a great team, and it has been an honor to work with him and Texas A&M to bolster our national defense. Together, we helped establish the Texas A&M Semiconductor Institute, expand both the RELLIS Campus and the Bush Combat Development Complex, and most recently, secure congressional funding to build the Ballistic, Aero-optics, and Materials Range facility, which will dramatically strengthen our military's understanding of war strategy and defense tactics. Within the last year alone, I've had the privilege of helping A&M execute Chancellor Sharp's vision, providing nearly \$40 million in Congressional funding for dozens of essential services and research opportunities throughout the system.

Everyone who knows Chancellor Sharp knows he is a man of extraordinary vision—and he is just as much "action" as he is "talk." He knows how to execute visionary ideas with excellence and purpose. He also has a great sense of humor and a very unique vocabulary.

No one has done more to transform, expand, and elevate the Texas A&M University System than Chancellor John Sharp. His visionary leadership has ensured Texas A&M will lead the Nation in academics and national security for decades to come. He leaves behind a strong legacy, with a profound and lasting impact on the A&M system, the hundreds of thousands of students who studied during his tenure, our Nation's military and defense sectors, and so much more.

On behalf of myself, my wife Linda, and the entire Aggie community, let me say, "thank you." While his leadership will be greatly missed, his impact on Texas A&M will live on for generations. Gig 'Em Aggies.

HONORING PETER DEBIASI AND A
CAREER OF SERVICE

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the extraordinary career of an eastern Connecticut stalwart public servant, Peter DeBiasi, and celebrate his retirement from Access Community Action Agency.

Peter DeBiasi's journey with Access began in March 2005, a challenging period marked by high leadership turnover and significant budgetary and staffing hurdles. Yet, it was precisely during this time of adversity that Peter's vision, dedication, and unwavering commitment to serving low-income individuals in Windham and Tolland counties truly shone. Prior to joining Access, Peter honed his leadership skills as President/CEO of the Connecticut Council of Family Service Agencies from 1999 to 2002, and as Vice President for Development and Marketing at United Community & Family Services from 2002 to 2005. This wealth of experience laid the groundwork for the transformative impact he would have at Access.

Under Peter's leadership, Access Community Action Agency has experienced unprecedented growth and made profound strides in its mission to empower individuals and families. One of his most significant legacies is the agency's pioneering work in affordable housing. What began with a single senior housing development in Willington, Connecticut has blossomed into a portfolio of over 200 units of owned or managed affordable housing, providing safe and stable homes for countless individuals.

Beyond housing, Peter dramatically improved Access's homeless services. The establishment of a 24/7 emergency shelter in Danielson, coupled with the opening of a cold-weather overnight shelter, has expanded the agency's capacity to offer immediate and vital support to those experiencing homelessness. Furthermore, Access has broadened its focus to proactively prevent homelessness by providing crucial assistance to individuals at risk, underscoring Peter's deep understanding of the complex challenges faced by vulnerable populations. His leadership ensured that Access met the growing need to address homelessness head-on.

The scale of Access's growth under Peter's guidance is truly remarkable. The agency has doubled its workforce to approximately 90 dedicated employees and has seen its yearly budget expand to an impressive \$15 million. This expansion has enabled Access to deliver more comprehensive and impactful services, with affordable housing leading the way in terms of growth. As someone who worked with Peter over many years, I can personally attest to his amazing dedication and passion to achieve the goals of community action. He has a deep understanding of all the policies and criticisms that inevitably would surface over the years and he deftly and pragmatically overcame many difficult challenges. We are very lucky in eastern Connecticut to have benefited from his great work.

As Peter transitions into a well-deserved retirement, planning to relax and enjoy time with family and friends, his impact on Access and the communities it serves will undoubtedly endure. His passion for fighting poverty has been a lifelong commitment, driven by the profound belief that poverty is difficult to experience, but does not have to be permanent. He made his life's work assisting those less fortunate and empowering them to find ways to achieve sustained economic stability.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Peter DeBiasi for his decades of exceptional leadership, unwavering dedication, and transformative contributions. His legacy will continue to inspire and guide Access Community

Action Agency as we strive to build a more equitable and supportive community for all.

HONORING TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S BEACH VOLLEYBALL ON WINNING THE 2025 NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

HON. CRAIG A. GOLDMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the TCU Women's Beach Volleyball program on winning the NCAA National Championship Tournament. In a thrilling final, the second-seeded Horned Frogs triumphed over Loyola Marymount University with a 3–2 victory. This historic win not only marks TCU's inaugural national title in beach volleyball but also signifies a shift in the sport's landscape, as TCU becomes the first program outside of USC and UCLA to claim the championship since 2016.

Under the leadership of Head Coach Hector Gutierrez, the Horned Frogs showcased resilience and determination throughout the tournament. Key contributions came from standout athletes Daniela Alvarez and Tania Moreno, whose exceptional performances were instrumental in securing the championship. Before the tournament, TCU won the Big 12 regular season and the conference tournament. This fantastic season is a testament to the dedication of the student-athletes, coaching staff, and the entire TCU community. It reflects the university's commitment to excellence in collegiate athletics and serves as an inspiration to aspiring athletes nationwide.

On behalf of the 12th Congressional District of Texas, I am proud to recognize the TCU Women's Beach Volleyball team for this remarkable achievement. Their hard work and perseverance have earned them a well-deserved place in NCAA history. I am excited to see how this program will continue to grow and proudly represent the University.

RECOGNIZING STEPHANIE WILSON

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today to recognize Ms. Stephanie Wilson for her service at Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative (WREC) and her remarkable role in the Light Up Navajo Project. In May, a courageous team of 16 WREC employees traveled over 1,800 miles to the remote, rugged terrains of Arizona and New Mexico, where they spent two weeks installing vital electrical infrastructure for Navajo families who have lived without power for generations. Their efforts brought light, safety, and hope to communities long overlooked, allowing children to study after dark, families to preserve food, and elders to live with greater comfort. Despite daunting challenges and limited equipment, the WREC team completed a demanding project in just eight days—far ahead of expectations—demonstrating professionalism,

humility, and unwavering commitment to this life-changing mission.

The impact of WREC's work goes far beyond electricity; it represents a bridge to connection, opportunity, and the return of future generations to their ancestral homes. The emotional moment when power was turned on for the impacted families—bringing tears of joy and renewed hope—is a testament to the profound difference this project made. WREC's participation in the "Light Up Navajo" initiative reflects not only their technical expertise but also their heart and respect for the people they serve. Their dedication has energized ten homesteads and countless lives, creating a legacy of service that embodies the true spirit of cooperative values. The WREC team's journey inspires us all, proving that with compassion and teamwork, even the most daunting challenges can be overcome to light up lives and communities. I commend the entire team for their efforts on this worthwhile endeavor and for their ongoing service to our local community.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF UNITED STATES ARMY VETERAN WALT HARTNETT

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to honor and recognize the life of Walt Hartnett, a devoted Army Veteran, tireless advocate, and passionate supporter of Veterans' rights. Walt's unwavering dedication to serving his fellow Veterans and his community left an indelible mark on all those who had the privilege of working with him.

Walt's military career spanned a total of 12 years, including 9 years of active duty and three years in the Army reserves. As an artillery crew member on active duty and a finance specialist during his time in the reserves, Walt's expertise and commitment to service were clear. He deployed to Afghanistan in 2010 to 2011 with the Army Reserves, where he served honorably before being medically discharged.

After leaving active service, Walt continued his commitment to helping fellow Veterans by becoming involved in Veteran organizations, including serving as the Commander of VFW Post 1074 in Conshohocken, Pennsylvania. Walt's leadership extended beyond his post as he also served as District Commander of VFW Pennsylvania District 16. His contributions to these organizations were rooted in his desire to support and uplift fellow Veterans and their families, constantly working to grow membership and expand community outreach.

In addition to his work in the VFW, Walt's passion for supporting Veterans continued in his role as a Veterans Affairs Caseworker for the United States House of Representatives. In this capacity, Walt worked tirelessly to assist Veterans and Servicemembers in navigating the complexities of federal benefits, healthcare, and other issues related to the Department of Veterans Affairs. His work as a caseworker included assisting with student nominations for military service academies and communicating vital information to local Veteran organizations.