

family, friends, coaches, and teammates. I am grateful local and federal law enforcement took swift action to apprehend those responsible, as that was the bare minimum we owe to Ava and to every American family trying to raise children in peace and safety.

I had the privilege of speaking with Ava's father, a man of great faith, kindness, and forgiveness. Even in the face of unimaginable loss, he told me he was remaining hopeful and positive, because, in his words, "that's how Ava would have wanted it." That tells you everything you need to know about the kind of young woman Ava was, and the family who raised her.

They chose to honor her life not with sorrow, but with a coming home memorial, a celebration of how she stood as an incredible example for all those around her. This past week, Ava was laid to rest with full military honors, as family and friends gathered to celebrate her grace, dignity, character, and strength.

Our Nation is at a loss with Ava's passing. She was leading a life of service as a young woman whose dream was to protect and defend the very freedoms we enjoy in this country today. She was taken far too soon.

May we honor Ava by remembering the incredible young woman that she was and may God bring peace to her family knowing that though her time on earth was cut short, her legacy and her example will last with all of us. We ask the Lord to bless and receive His servant, Ava Moore. She has come home.

RECOGNIZING AMANDA BARLOW
ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Amanda Barlow, for the 30 years of service she has given to the Federal Government at the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families.

Ms. Barlow has been with ACF since 1994, when she joined the agency as a presidential management intern, and then as a budget analyst. She became the Director of Budget in 2009 and has served as the Director of the Office of Legislative Affairs and Budget since 2017. Ms. Barlow has also served in an acting capacity for several of ACF's executive leadership positions, including the acting ACF Commissioner from January to November 2021, and the acting Assistant Secretary for ACF from February to May 2017.

Through her work overseeing a budget of more than \$70 billion for ACF, Ms. Barlow has played a key role supporting the programs and services that provide critical assistance to vulnerable populations, including Head Start and Child Care services for millions of children and families, and the heating and cooling of millions of households through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. Over the last 30 years, these programs have helped millions of children and families achieve prosperity and independence.

In addition to overseeing the 60-plus programs ACF administers, Ms. Barlow has also served as ACF's liaison to the Committees on

Appropriations. She has been an indispensable resource to the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. Her budgetary expertise and round-the-clock responsiveness has helped the Subcommittee to draft annual appropriations bills and emergency supplementals—for which I am deeply grateful.

In 2024, Ms. Barlow earned the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Service, one of the most prestigious awards in the Federal career civil service, which recognizes members of the Senior Executive Service for a sustained record of exceptional professional achievement. It was aptly awarded and richly deserved.

I thank Ms. Barlow for her tireless public service—which often included long days, evenings, and weekends—as she worked to ensure that critical economic and social services programs funded through the agency had the necessary resources to serve millions of children and families in communities across the country. Her talents and contributions will be sorely missed.

I congratulate Ms. Barlow on a distinguished career and wish her the best in her upcoming retirement. I hope her retirement gives her more time with family, including her husband and two children, and much success with her community garden plot.

HONORING THE 130TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE INDIANAPOLIS RECORDER
NEWSPAPER

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize an extraordinary institution in American journalism and Black history as the Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper celebrates its 130th anniversary.

Founded in 1895 by George P. Stewart and Will Porter as a two-page church bulletin, the Recorder has grown into one of the most enduring African American newspapers in the United States. It has served as a vital platform for truth, justice, and community empowerment, particularly for Black Hoosiers, for over thirteen decades.

From its early advocacy against lynching and for voting rights, to its courageous coverage during the Civil Rights Movement, to dedicated coverage of issues impacting the Black community and all Hoosiers, the Recorder has always championed fairness and equal representation for all. It has lifted up local Black institutions like Crispus Attucks High School and the Madam Walker Manufacturing Company, while promoting civic engagement and public health.

In recent decades, the Recorder has continued to evolve under visionary leadership. From William G. Mays' preservation of its legacy to Shannon Williams' modernization of operations, and now under Robert Shegog, the Recorder has expanded its reach through digital innovation, multimedia platforms, and award-winning journalism—earning over one hundred honors in just the past few years.

Today, with more than 120,000 weekly readers, the Recorder is not just a newspaper—it's a living institution. Through initia-

tives like Recorder Charities, the JAWS youth journalism program, and the Minority Business Review, it continues to invest in the future of media and enrich civic life in Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper on its 130th anniversary. May the Recorder's legacy of truth, service, and advocacy continue to inspire and inform for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING TYRA YOUNGBLOOD

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Ms. Tyra Youngblood 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, she helped coordinate the collection and distribution of emergency supplies, meals and donated services to help those who needed help. A truly selfless leader, Ms. Youngblood was a strong advocate for bringing in government and non-profit resources to aid in the recovery process.

It is clear that Tyra Youngblood 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.

RECOGNIZING E.J. BASLER CO.

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize E.J. Basler Co. in Schiller Park, Illinois.

E.J. Basler Co., a family-owned manufacturing company, has been based in Schiller Park since 1957. The company was built on the core values of quality and customer service, founded by Erv and Anne Basler, children of immigrants. Now in its third generation of family leadership, E.J. Basler Co. is run by Dennis and Brian Basler. Their ongoing commitment to responsive service and high-quality manufacturing has supported strong, long-term relationships with clients and vendors in Illinois' fifth district and across the globe. E.J. Basler Co. has achieved lasting success by staying true to its original values while evolving with current times.

E.J. Basler Co. offers precision machinery services that leverage different techniques, cutting-edge technology, and expertise to create the most cost-effective solutions for customers. They manufacture from iconel, brass, steel, plastic, and copper. Manufacturing is crucial to the global economy, and E.J. Basler Co. delivers high-quality solutions across industries, working with the best of agriculture, plumbing, automotive, industrial, defense, and medical companies. The close proximity to E.J. Basler Co. and its valuable services offer companies in Illinois' fifth district a competitive advantage and drive economic development within the district.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the longstanding dedication and success of E.J. Basler Co. I am honored to have such an exceptional company in my district.

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF THE
ACADEMY FOR INTERNATIONAL
DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a decade of excellence at the Academy for International Disaster Preparedness at Florida International University.

Over the past decade, AIDP has trained and graduated more than 500 students in disaster preparedness, emergency management, and humanitarian response.

These programs have successfully prepared students to work in local, tribal, state, and federal government as well as in Fortune 500 companies and the private sector.

AIDP's curriculum aligns with FEMA's Next Generation Core Competencies, focusing on four phases of emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

Through hands on training, students, along with experts in the field, use the frameworks of the Incident Command System and the National Incident Management System to experience complex, real-world disaster environments.

FIU and AIDP are setting the standard for the next generation of emergency management professionals, and I am proud to recognize their service and leadership today.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF DR. BARBARA J. FINLAYSON-
PITTS

HON. JAY OBERNOLTE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Dr. Barbara J. Finlayson-Pitts who was recently recognized as the North American laureate of the 2025 L'Oreal-United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) For Women in Science International Awards.

Each year, the L'Oreal-UNESCO For Women in Science International Awards acknowledge five exceptional women from each of the world's major regions. Barbara was selected from an impressive pool of 466 nominees for her pioneering contributions in the realm of environmental science and atmospheric chemistry. On June 12, Barbara will join the additional four laureates at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France for an official recognition of her groundbreaking research.

Barbara embodies the very best of our community's values through not only her consistent dedication to better understanding the world around her, but also through her passion for preparing future generations of researchers as a professor within the University of California, Irvine's Department of Chemistry.

Barbara holds a bachelor's degree from Trent University, and both a master's and doctoral degree in chemistry from the University of California, Riverside. Barbara is a long-term resident of Big Bear Lake—and in her spare time—she enjoys observing Big Bear Lake's resident eagles, Jackie, Shadow, Sunny, and Gizmo.

Heather and I thank Barbara for her years of service and significant contributions to the scientific community. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Barbara on this monumental achievement.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE ORION AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with deep respect and heartfelt appreciation to recognize the Orion Area Chamber of Commerce on the occasion of its 75th anniversary. For three-quarters of a century, the Chamber has played a vital role in advancing the economic well-being of the Orion community and fostering a spirit of collaboration and service among its members.

Since its founding, the Orion Area Chamber of Commerce has grown to include nearly 350 dedicated members—each committed to enhancing the quality of life in the region and supporting one another in the pursuit of economic growth and shared prosperity. This remarkable network of business leaders, entrepreneurs, and professionals exemplifies the Chamber's enduring mission: to build a vibrant, connected, and thriving local economy.

Throughout its history, the Chamber has been a steadfast advocate for small businesses, providing valuable resources and opportunities in the areas of advocacy, visibility, networking, and growth. Signature events such as ribbon cuttings, community festivals, and live music nights not only highlight the exceptional talent and variety of local enterprises but also strengthen the bonds among neighbors, business owners, and civic leaders alike. These events serve as a testament to the Chamber's unwavering commitment to building community through commerce.

Moreover, the Orion Chamber has demonstrated exceptional dedication to workforce development by connecting residents with meaningful employment opportunities. Through job postings and partnerships with member businesses, the Chamber continues to support a robust and resilient local labor market—contributing directly to the economic stability and prosperity of the Orion area.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize and commend the Orion Area Chamber of Commerce for 75 years of extraordinary service, leadership, and impact. Their tireless efforts to uplift local businesses and strengthen community ties have left an indelible mark on the region. I extend my sincerest congratulations and best wishes for continued success in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING TYRONE YOUNG

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2025

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

It is clear that Tyrone Young 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.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOE
MOORE

HON. JOHN W. ROSE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the incredible life of Joe Moore, who passed away in late March at the age of 90. Moore lived a life dedicated to agriculture. I, along with many other current and former Tennessee FFA members, consider him to be a mentor, a role model, and indeed a hero.

The Time Magazine cover was published after he was named the FFA Star Farmer of America in 1955. Appearing in the October 24, 1955, issue, it shows a 21-year-old Joe Moore, the only active FFA member to make TIME's cover.

At the FFA convention that year, judges were impressed by his farming operation conducted in Jackson County, Tennessee, which I am honored to represent today. He had a net worth of \$37,000 at the time—a great deal for someone his age in the mid-1950s. At that time, he was farming 505 acres, 85 of which he owned personally.

I often say farmers are our Nation's original conservationists. Joe Moore is a shining example of why I believe that to be true. The TIME article noted how he incorporated modern farming techniques to combat erosion and improve soil health. He carefully monitored the diet of his livestock to keep them healthy. He showed great attention to detail and inspected his animals closely, which enabled him to detect any health issues early.

Over the years, his family farm has taken a bit of a beating. Very little care was taken to where row crops went into the ground. No remedies for erosion had been taken. But Joe was determined to restore the land to richness. He tackled years of abuse and the less-than-ideal terrain, arguing that his rocky slopes could be as fertile as flat land with the right amount of care. The article even says Joe viewed misfortune as a test of faith.

Mr. Moore found success off the farm as well. He was the owner and operator of the Upper Cumberland Oil Company in Cookeville,