

one of the largest health systems in Florida, AdventHealth, where she works at the intersection of healthcare and public policy—building trusted relationships with government and strategic partners, ensuring stakeholder representation. Before joining AdventHealth, Jamilah served in the Executive Offices of Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer, where she managed several programs and led community-driven initiatives focused on parity in infrastructure and neighborhood development.

While working at the city, she successfully secured funding for a \$400,000 infrastructure improvement project in an underserved neighborhood. Her career spans Fortune 500 companies, including Edward Jones Investments, where she earned the Spirit of Partnership Award, recognizing her exceptional role in fostering external partnerships and branch management.

Ms. Felix holds a Master of Public Administration with a concentration in public policy from the University of Central Florida. While at UCF, Jamilah was selected as a Legislative Scholar, earning a fellowship in the Florida Senate for a ranking member of Congress.

Ms. Felix is also the founder of Aminah Joy Jewelry, an online jewelry boutique. She is a graduate of Leadership Orlando and currently serves on several regional boards, including the St. Cloud Chamber Government Affairs Committee. She's passionate about helping to solve complex social issues to create lasting change.

#### HONORING MICHAEL DOWNS FOR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

#### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2025*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mike Downs for a lifetime of dedication and commitment to the people of Cabarrus County. Having served as deputy county manager for 8 years and going on to serve as county manager for another 14 years, he was the longest standing county manager in Cabarrus County history.

Mr. Downs received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration-Business Administration Management and Operations in 1983 from Pfeiffer College (now University) in Misenheimer, North Carolina, where he also played both varsity basketball and baseball. He was inducted into the Pfeiffer University Hall of fame for both sports in 2017. Beginning his career in 1986 as a zoning inspector, Mr. Downs has spent nearly four decades serving his community. He is known for his strong leadership and management skills.

Mike has served on a multitude of boards and volunteered for many charitable and service organizations. Among them, The Cannon Foundation Advisory Board, Greater Cabarrus Foundation, Cabarrus Rotary Club, Pfeiffer Falcon Club and Legacy Club. His service has been honored with the Executive Level Leadership Award, Leadership Cabarrus Alumni Impact Award, and Hometown Hero Award to recognize his service, to just name a few. He is also a Shriner and has served in many capacities with them.

Over the course of Mr. Downs' career, he demonstrated his hard work ethic, commitment

to service, and dedication to his county. He undoubtedly is leaving Cabarrus County in a better place than where he found it.

Renee and I offer our most heartfelt appreciation to Mike for his decades of service; we wish him well and hope he enjoys this new chapter where he can spend more time with his wife, Beth, along with his children and grandchildren. I am confident that I speak for the entire community when I thank him for all he has accomplished.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring Mr. Mike Downs for a lifetime of extraordinary service to his community.

#### HONORING DON HEWITT

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Mr. Don Hewitt, a trailblazer in sustainable urban development and a visionary entrepreneur whose work has made a transformative impact on communities throughout Jackson, Mississippi, and beyond.

Mr. Hewitt is the founder and owner of Advanced Technology Building Solutions (ATBS), established in 2004 and headquartered in Jackson. With more than 20 years of experience in real estate development and urban planning, Mr. Hewitt has consistently prioritized community-centered solutions that emphasize walkability, environmental design, and economic opportunity.

Under his leadership, ATBS has emerged as a leader in mixed-use developments that integrate green spaces, affordable housing, retail accessibility, and local business engagement. The company's initiatives frequently involve partnerships with public housing authorities, nonprofit organizations, and government entities—leading to the revitalization of underutilized spaces into vibrant, inclusive neighborhoods.

Currently, ATBS is collaborating with the West Jackson Community Development Corporation and the Jackson Medical Mall Foundation to implement an innovative urban streetscape project in West Jackson. This development will offer affordable workspace for local entrepreneurs and startups, fostering economic opportunity and nurturing local talent.

Mr. Hewitt's commitment to sustainability extends beyond physical infrastructure. As a participant in the AI Business Accelerator Cohort, he is integrating artificial intelligence into project planning to optimize sustainability metrics and enhance community engagement. His forward-thinking approach ensures that urban development remains both efficient and equitable.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Mr. Don Hewitt for his service, leadership, and unwavering dedication to building a stronger, more inclusive Mississippi. His work exemplifies what it means to develop with the community and for the community.

#### HONORING SOPHIA GREEN AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

#### HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2025*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Sophia Green, known affectionately as Sophie G, is a vibrant radio personality hosting "The Sophie G Show" on Cultural Vibrations Radio. Broadcasting to the Central Florida area, Sophia's show celebrates Caribbean culture, entertains, and encourages listeners with inspiring stories and discussions.

Sophia has over 14 years of experience in broadcasting, establishing herself as a trusted voice in the Caribbean diaspora community.

Born in Jamaica, Sophia proudly identifies as an "Island Girl" and brings a unique perspective to her shows.

She won the Jamaica National Festival Song in 1989 with her sister Andi Green, becoming the first female duo to achieve this feat.

Sophia is a dedicated mother and loving grandmother, drawing inspiration from her family and community. As a certified professional life coach, Sophia focuses on life purpose, forgiveness, and happiness. She contributes to Caribbean Under One Magazine (KUOMagazine & TV), sharing her perspectives on various topics.

Sophia believes in finding the positive in life's experiences, often quoting the idea of making "lemonade" from life's challenges. With her witty humor and heartfelt approach, Sophie G has built a loyal following and established herself as a respected voice in the Caribbean diaspora. Through "The Sophie G Show" on Cultural Vibrations Radio, Caribbean Rhythms Radio Network, Sophia continues to inspire and connect with her audience in Central Florida and beyond.

#### RECOGNIZING LINDA CULVER'S RETIREMENT

#### HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2025*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize my long-time employee, Linda Culver, as she prepares to retire at the end of June.

I've often said that a really good staff makes a decent Member of Congress—and throughout my time in office, I've been fortunate to have outstanding individuals like Linda by my side.

Linda began working in my Twin Falls office on the very first day we opened our doors. From that day forward, she has been a steady, dedicated presence—not only for me and my team but for the people of Idaho.

Many people do not recognize what congressional offices can do for them, but with Linda's presence in Idaho, she worked tirelessly to help Idahoans where she could and serve their needs. Linda trained under one of the best caseworkers in Idaho and not only carried on that legacy but enhanced it. She

never cut corners when it came to constituent service.

As my Casework Director, she instilled the same standard across my team. One of the things I'm most proud of during my time in Congress is the high level of service we've provided to Idahoans—and Linda played a key role in making that happen. Federal government agencies are often difficult and complex to navigate. However, Linda's ability to cut through the red tape made her an invaluable resource and help to many.

Linda's public service did not stop at casework. She created mobile district office hours so Idahoans—especially those living in small, rural areas—could meet with my staff, ask questions, and find out how we can help when problems arise.

She also created an event known as the "Funders Fair," a one-stop shop where federal agencies and organizations came together to help Idahoans learn about and apply for available grants.

Additionally, Linda has remained actively involved with Idaho's military and veterans. She took it upon herself to create Service Academy Days for the entire Idaho Delegation—an event for Idaho's high school students to learn about our Nation's military academies. This tradition has lasted for nearly 30 years. She also put together the Veterans History Project, a Library of Congress project that collects, preserves and makes accessible firsthand the recollections of veterans who served during World War I through more recent conflicts and peacekeeping missions.

From helping tens of thousands of Idahoans navigate complex federal issues to personally attending meetings and events across the district to supporting veterans, Linda has been far more than an asset—she has been family. As she enters retirement, Linda will enjoy some well-deserved time with her husband, their dogs Koda and Tessa, and their children and grandchildren.

I will miss Linda, the rest of my staff will miss Linda, and so will the Idahoans that she so faithfully served for the last two decades.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my sincere gratitude to Linda's husband, Brent, for sharing his amazing wife with Team Simpson for all these years. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking and honoring Linda Culver for her decades of outstanding public service to the people of Idaho and this great Nation.

#### CELEBRATING CARTER BROADCAST GROUP'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2025*

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Carter Broadcast Group (CBG), a pillar of Black music and culture in the Kansas City metropolitan area, and the oldest Black-owned and family-operated radio broadcast company in the United States. Let us take a moment to reflect on the 75 years of creativity, 75 years of challenges overcome, and 75 years of community contribution that have undisputedly been instrumental in shaping the Kansas City I know and serve today.

The station's story began with a visionary, Andrew Skip Carter. Born in 1919, in Savannah, Georgia, Carter always had a passion for radio. However, Carter's ambitions coincided with a time when segregation and Jim Crow laws worked to prevent their realization. Due to the color of his skin, Carter was turned down from jobs and forced to work in a hostile industry. However, in keeping with the principles that would come to define CBG, Carter advocated for himself and his community. In August 1948, he wrote a letter to Broadcast magazine criticizing the FCC's prejudiced treatment of African Americans. Through this effort, he was able to make a connection with former Kansas Governor Alf Landon, who would assist Carter in receiving his FCC license in August 1949, making him the second African American to obtain one. Through financial backing from Landon and continued demonstrations of grit, Carter was able to launch KPRS, the Kansas People's Radio Station, in 1950. Two years later, Carter purchased the station, making it the first Black-owned radio station west of the Mississippi River.

CBG prioritizes playing Black music of all genres, with a specific focus on exploring jazz, blues, R&B, gospel, and hip-hop. Not only does the station promote Black music, but it engages with the artists behind it, interviewing creators who have cultivated fan bases around the world, including Kansas City locals like Janelle Monae and Tech N9ne. Indeed, listeners throughout the KC area all feel the impact of having a radio station that amplifies Black voices and stories.

Beyond music programming, CBG is an informational hub. Its hosts regularly interview political figures to discuss topics ranging from student debt on a national level to issues facing Kansas City locally. In hopes of building a healthier Kansas City, programmers craft segments to inform local listeners of critical resources. Whether disseminating information regarding suicide prevention and COVID-19 vaccination clinics, or shining a light on local organizations like Giving Hope and Help, which works to support domestic abuse survivors, and Harvesters, which works to prevent food insecurity, the Carter Broadcast Group consistently serves the city it calls home.

Indeed, this station epitomizes the ideas expressed in 1 Corinthians 12:25-27, "So that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it: if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." Carter Broadcast Group recognizes the obligation we have to one another and surpasses it to a commendable degree.

The impact is clear. Countless listeners proclaim their praise for the station, citing the significance it has had on their lives and the lives of their loved ones. CBG is dedicated to providing a Black radio station that plays amazing music and nourishes the community culturally, socially, and politically. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating CBG's 75th anniversary. This is an accomplishment deserving of recognition in our Nation's Capital, and I am honored to extend my congratulations as the station begins its celebrations. I anticipate many more monumental anniversaries, for I know CBG will continue to be a fountain of knowledge and joy for our commu-

nity, progressing the innovative work of Andrew Skip Carter.

#### HONORING PATRINA M. LAWRENCE AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

#### HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2025*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Patrina M. Lawrence is a dynamic and accomplished executive who has made a lasting impact on Florida's Ninth Congressional District through her leadership in behavioral health and social services. As the founder and chief executive officer of Serving Children and Reaching Families (SCARF), a community-based mental health organization headquartered in Kissimmee, Florida, Ms. Lawrence has led efforts to deliver high-quality, culturally responsive, and trauma-informed care to children and families across Central Florida since 2013.

Guided by the belief that "safety and security don't just happen—they are the result of collective consensus and public investment," as Nelson Mandela once said, Ms. Lawrence has dedicated her career to building systems that protect and uplift the most vulnerable. Through SCARF, she has expanded access to mental health services, secured funding from the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Health, and Osceola County Schools, and fostered long-standing partnerships with the Department of Children and Families and regional managing entities.

Through an eight-year partnership with the Florida Department of Children and Families, Ms. Lawrence was instrumental in creating a diversion program that has helped strengthen families and successfully diverted over 500 children annually from entering the foster care system. A licensed clinical social worker and seasoned clinician, Ms. Lawrence has provided direct care and clinical oversight to hundreds of clients. She has authored SCARF's operational policies and training curricula, helping to elevate standards across Florida's behavioral health workforce. Her work has not only improved outcomes but also ensured service fidelity and compliance with state regulations.

Ms. Lawrence holds an advanced degree in social work from Howard University and has completed executive education at Harvard University in leadership, business strategy, and public health equity. Her work embodies a commitment to access, quality, and innovation in behavioral health for Florida's most vulnerable populations.

#### COMMEMORATION OF JUNETEENTH AMID THE EROSION OF BLACK HISTORY

#### HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2025*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, after just four short years since I proudly cast my vote to establish Juneteenth as a federal holiday