

LeBlanc for his extraordinary 33-year career in public service and on his recent retirement as the City of Westland's City Clerk.

Mr. LeBlanc's steadfast dedication to community and service to our residents has spanned five elected offices, from his start on the Wayne-Westland Board of Education to the Michigan House of Representatives, and most recently, as Westland City Clerk. At every step, LeBlanc was known as a hard worker and accessible leader, focused on making our government work for everyday families. He modernized the Clerk's Office, expanded access to civic participation, and mentored countless public servants along the way, shaping the lives and careers of young leaders. He is proud of his strong roots and service to the Western Wayne community. I have seen his commitment firsthand.

His retirement marks our district's appreciation for his service to our families. His recent heartfelt tribute from city officials and the presentation of a key to the city, is a symbol of how deeply he shaped Westland's civic life and communities. While Richard LeBlanc's formal legislative work has ended, his legacy of service and integrity will continue to inspire our community for generations to come.

HONORING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALLEN FIVE

HON. CHARLES J. "CHUCK" FLEISCHMANN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2025

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the July 16, 2015, terrorist attacks in Chattanooga that took the lives of five brave U.S. servicemen, remembered forever as the Fallen Five.

Ten years ago, yesterday, tragedy struck our Chattanooga community when a radical jihadist terrorist took the lives of five heroic servicemen and wounded two others in one of the darkest days Chattanooga and Tennessee have endured. Out of the horror and violence of that terrible day, our community has stood firmly together in love, support, kindness, and strength to honor and remember the ultimate sacrifice and legacy of the Fallen Five and to uplift and support their beloved families.

Chattanoogaans, Tennesseans, and Americans nationwide will never forget the Fallen Five. We will always pay homage to U.S. Marine Gunnery Sergeant Thomas J. Sullivan, U.S. Marine Staff Sergeant David A. Wyatt, U.S. Marine Sergeant Carson A. Holmquist, U.S. Marine Lance Corporal Squire K. "Skip" Wells, and U.S. Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Randall J. Smith. Their dedication to America, our community, our military, our freedoms, and service to others will always be remembered.

Please join Brenda and me in praying for the eternal souls of the Fallen Five, who are home now with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and for their families and loved ones. We remember the eternal, healing words spoken through Psalms, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble," and "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me." May God bless the Fallen Five and their families, and may God continue to bless Chattanooga and our great Nation.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF CORPORAL EDMUND "ED" BURKE

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2025

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Corporal Edmund "Ed" Burke of Wilton, Connecticut who will celebrate his 100th birthday next week.

Born and raised in the Bronx, he attended Fordham Prep High School and was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1944. Just eighteen at the time, Corporal Burke reported for basic training at Camp Wheeler, Georgia without hesitation, knowing his call to serve came when his country needed him most.

Assigned to the Seventh Armored Division, he was an Infantry Machine Gunner in the European theatre of World War II. He saw action at the Battle of the Bulge, where his division took over 100,000 German prisoners, with Corporal Burke personally capturing enemy soldiers. His bravery earned him multiple commendations, including: a Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, ETO ribbon with four battle stars, Presidential Unit Citation, Meritorious Unit Citation, Belgian Fourregiare, and the Combat Infantry Badge.

After receiving an honorable discharge in 1946, Corporal Burke pursued engineering degrees on the G.I. Bill, first at Manhattan College where he earned his Bachelor of Civil Engineering, later at Columbia University, where he completed his Masters in the same field. Throughout his tenure as an engineer, Corporal Burke would join the New York State Department of Public Works, as well as Corbett, Tinghir & Co. Engineers, ending his career as a partner at Moran, Proctor, Mueser, and Rutledge. There, he was renowned for meticulously and thoughtfully applying his expertise in foundational engineering to the projects on which he worked, including over one hundred sites right here in Washington, D.C.

Corporal Burke's life stands as an all-American success story, one which we would all do well to share with our constituents as a model of how service, hard work, and patriotism come together to form a life well-led. On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Ed Burke for his service, our congratulations on reaching this milestone in a full life, and a sincere happy birthday. May this be his best one yet.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE CONGRESSIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARDS RECIPIENTS OF FLORIDA'S 16TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2025

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to pay tribute to law enforcement men and women who have provided distinguished service to the people of Florida's 16th Congressional District.

Law enforcement is a demanding profession that requires sacrifice, courage, and dedication to serve others. Every day, brave men and women put themselves in harm's way to enforce the laws of our society and protect public safety. They deserve our gratitude and respect.

Fifteen years ago, I established the 16th District Congressional Law Enforcement Awards to give special recognition to law enforcement officers, departments, or units for exceptional achievement.

This year, I will present Congressional law enforcement awards and include in the RECORD the following recipients chosen by an independent panel comprised of current and retired law enforcement personnel representing a cross-section of the district's law enforcement community:

Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award: Special Agent Matthew Murray of ATF, Deputy John Howes III of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, Officer Chris Bennett of the Holmes Beach Police Department, Deputy Leonel Barboza, Deputy Stephen Cook, Deputy Michael Davis, Deputy Jackson Dugmore, Deputy Robert Pereyra, Jr., and Detective Randall Walker of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office;

Dedication and Professionalism Award: Deputy Jeffery Merry of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, Captain Mark Morie of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office, Corporal Quinn Moriarty of the Palmetto Police Department;

Gary Tibbetts Career Service Award: Chief Melanie Bevan and Sergeant Michael Kriebel of the Bradenton Police Department, Captain Araseli Stanley of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office;

Preservation of Life Award: Deputy Judd Beckwith, Deputy Lashonda Bowden, Deputy Colin Caldwell, Deputy Brian Fullbright, Deputy Adrian Harrison, Deputy Micah Osornio, Deputy Erika Perez-Ramos, Deputy Luis Rivera-Lopez, Deputy James Workman, and Deputy Javier Zuniga-Mejia of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office;

Unit Citation Award: Bradenton Police Department Crime Reduction Team: Sergeant Todd Freed, K-9 Officer Michael Wall, Officer Steven Bembry, Officer Jordan Miller, Officer Aaron Smith, Officer Connor Horsley, Acting Sergeant Jeff Beckley, K-9 Officer Nicolas Leeman, Officer Enzo Rovira, Officer Brett Heagney-Sciamatore, Officer Marisol Valente, and Officer Maddie Johnson, Bradenton Police Department Elder Fraud Unit: Detective James Curulla and Officer Deana McNeal, Manatee County Sheriff's Office Homicide Unit: Major Anthony Williams, Captain Darin Bankert, Sergeant Salvatore Levita, Detective Charles Butler, Detective Darryl Davis, Detective Mark Pearson, Detective Garrick Plonczynski, Detective Michael Smith, Detective Justin Warren and Sergeant Jeremy Liddell, Manatee County Sheriff's Office Resource Assistance Program (RAP Unit).

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

SPEECH OF

HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Chair, my amendment supports the circuit rider health program, which Cannon Air Force Base spearheaded to make sure military families in rural

communities have access to the specialized care they need. Just like the circuit riders of the American frontier who brought church services to remote towns, today's circuit riders bring child psychiatry, neurology, and other critical specialties directly to our bases.

Cannon may have pioneered this approach, but rural military installations across the country could benefit. Nearly 50 percent of active-duty bases are in health care deserts, where accessing specialists often means long drives, missed duty, and high costs. In just over a year, Cannon's program served 160 patients, saved \$200,000 in travel voucher costs, and reclaimed 1,400 duty hours.

The circuit rider program saves money, improves mission readiness, and strengthens care for servicemembers and their families.

I urge support for my amendment to expand this cost-effective and proven model to rural bases nationwide.

RECOGNIZING SETH HERNANDEZ,
BILLY CARLSON, BRADY EBEL,
AND ETHIN BINGAMAN

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2025

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in proud recognition of four Corona High School students, Seth Hernandez, Billy Carlson, Brady Ebel, and Ethin Bingaman who were selected in the 2025 Major League Baseball Draft. Seth Hernandez, Billy Carlson, and Brady Ebel were selected in the First Round on Sunday, and Ethin Bingaman was selected in the Twentieth Round on Monday. This is the first time in Major League Baseball Draft history that three players from the same high school were drafted in the first round. I am always proud to call myself an alumnus of Corona High School, but I am especially proud this week.

Corona High School has a long history of excellence on the baseball diamond. Seth, Billy, Brady, and Ethin are the latest in a long line of Corona High School players who have made their way to Major League Baseball. The Pittsburgh Pirates, Chicago White Sox, Milwaukee Brewers, and Arizona Diamondbacks are all incredibly lucky to draft Seth, Billy, Brady, and Ethin, respectively, and I know they will represent the school and our community well. I wish them all the best in the next step of their journey, and along with all Corona residents and Corona High School alumni, I look forward to cheering them on in the Major League.

HONORING GARY ALLEN

HON. MELANIE A. STANSBURY

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2025

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gary Allen, who just retired as the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Western Territory General Vice President and was the President of Local Lodge No. 794 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Mr. Allen was first initiated into IAM Local

Lodge No. 794 in 1979 upon his employment at the General Electric Aircraft Engine Plant.

Following his father Ray's example. Mr. Allen involved himself in the IAM very early in his career at General Electric by being elected Area Steward in 1981. Only one year later, he was elected First Shift Steward, and by 1983, he was elected Chief Steward, overseeing the activities of all shop stewards on all shifts at General Electric. Mr. Allen also served as Local Lodge Auditor, Labor Relations Negotiating Committee member, Organizing Committee member, and as a delegate to then District Lodge 183.

In 1985, at the age of 24, Mr. Allen became President and Directing Business Representative of Local Lodge 794, representing members at a variety of shops including General Electric, Greyhound, Fruehauf Trailers, and Arkansas Best Freight. He held this position until 1989, when he was appointed Special Representative for the Western Territory.

In 1991, Mr. Allen became a Grand Lodge Representative, and in 1996, he was appointed as the Territorial Organizing Leader for the Western Territory, where he coordinated the organizing activities throughout the Western Territory. Mr. Allen was then moved to IAM Headquarters in 1997 as a Coordinator for Collective Bargaining and later that year was appointed Aerospace Coordinator in the newly-formed IAM Aerospace Department where he coordinated collective bargaining throughout North America with aerospace companies such as General Electric, Rolls-Royce, Pratt & Whitney, Hamilton Sundstrand, and Raytheon among others.

In 2003, Mr. Allen was appointed to serve as the Western Territory's Administrative Assistant, where he served in that capacity until 2009, when he was elected General Vice President of the Western Territory.

Since 2012, Mr. Allen has represented the IAM as a trustee on the IAM National Pension Fund, the 6th largest multiemployer pension fund in the United States with approximately \$8.4 billion in assets, providing over 80,000 retirees and beneficiaries with retirement security.

Since 1991, Mr. Allen has also served his community as an Executive Board member for the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA), becoming a Vice President of the Board in 2010.

One thing is clear: Mr. Allen has dedicated his life to ensuring his fellow union members are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve both on and off the jobsite. His decades of knowledge and leadership will be missed not just at IAM, but across the union world as a whole. I wish him the best in his retirement.

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF THE
CHANNEL ISLANDS HARBOR

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2025

Ms. BROWNLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Channel Islands Harbor, which is celebrating 60 years of rich history, vibrant community, and natural beauty.

This beautiful gem in my district is Ventura County's first-ever recreational harbor, nestled

between the cities of Port Hueneme and Ventura. Since its grand opening to the public on Memorial Day in 1965, the Channel Islands Harbor has helped transform our region into an economic engine for both the state and the nation.

Our ports and harbors are vital for driving economic growth, spurring job creation, uplifting small businesses, fostering community engagement, generating tourism, protecting coastal ecosystems, and so much more.

Throughout my time in Congress, I have worked closely with local leaders and community stakeholders to ensure the harbor remains fully operational and accessible. I am proud to have secured millions in federal funding to meet the harbor's dredging needs, combat coastal erosion, and keep the harbor accessible to the commercial fishing industry, supply chain businesses, and the general public.

Thanks to our shared commitment to the dredging and maintenance of Channel Islands Harbor, nearly 1,500 harbor vessels, including the Channel Islands National Park ferries, commercial fishing vessels, and private boaters have safe and unrestricted access between the open ocean, Ventura Harbor, and the Ventura Keys.

For over 60 years, the Channel Islands Harbor has given us breathtaking access to our scenic ocean and stunning natural landscapes, welcomed tourists to experience the quintessential California dream with us, and captured the splendor of California's 26th Congressional District to its fullest—all while strengthening our local economy. Today, the Channel Islands Harbor continues to play an invaluable role in making Ventura County a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family.

I am proud to mark the 60th anniversary of the Channel Islands Harbor, and I join our community in honoring this iconic local landmark.

PROMOTING UNITED STATES
WIRELESS LEADERSHIP ACT OF
2025

SPEECH OF

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2025

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker. I wish to include in the RECORD the following letters of exchange between the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the House Committee on Foreign Affairs with respect to H.R. 1765, the Promoting United States Wireless Leadership Act of 2025. By these letters, the Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs agreed to discharge the bill and forgo further consideration of the measure so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House Floor. I agree that this discharge in no way diminishes or alters the jurisdiction of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, July 1, 2025.

Hon. BRETT GUTHRIE,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN GUTHRIE: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Foreign