

(Ret.), a proud United States Marine, Vietnam veteran, and the devoted parent of a U.S. military veteran. Mr. Zavada has served his country not only in uniform, but also through his unwavering dedication to preserving the Fallen Hoosier Heroes Memorial in Westfield, Indiana.

Since 2009, Mr. Zavada has volunteered his time and labor to care for this living tribute to 210 Indiana service members, who lost their lives in the wars following September 11. The Memorial was founded by fellow Vietnam Veteran Command Sergeant Major Donald E. Peed, who initially placed white crosses on his property to honor the fallen. What began as a few simple crosses grew each year, becoming a powerful community landmark. The first cross honored Marine Sergeant Jeanette Winters, the first woman killed in combat during Operation Enduring Freedom. The most recent cross honors Marine Corporal Humberto Sanchez, who was killed outside the Kabul airport in Afghanistan during the 2021 withdrawal.

Mr. Zavada has devoted hundreds of hours to maintaining the Memorial. He mows the grass, clears snow in winter, salts the walkways, replaces worn flags, and commissions plaques for newly fallen heroes. Beyond upkeep, he has become a steward of memory—sharing the stories behind each cross and ensuring that every name is remembered with dignity.

Each spring, local elementary school students visit the Memorial, where Mr. Zavada teaches them about the service and sacrifice represented there. Through his words and care, young people learn the deep cost of freedom and the value of honoring those who gave everything.

Local businesses support his work anonymously, providing funds for flagpole upgrades, flowers, and supplies. The Carmel VFW also contributes to maintenance and expenses, helping preserve this hallowed ground.

On behalf of Indiana's 5th District, I thank Corporal Dennis Zavada for his honorable service in Vietnam, his continued care for the Fallen Hoosier Heroes Memorial, and his lasting contributions to the community and the country.

RECOGNIZING PAIGE KITTS

HON. HILLARY J. SCHOLTEN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Paige Kitts. Paige is a member of Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore, Troop 4504. She has exemplified extraordinary leadership, innovative problem-solving, and a demonstrated commitment to making a lasting, positive impact by earning the most prestigious award in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award.

Gold Award Girl Scouts are recognized as trailblazers who are willing to tackle the most pressing challenges facing their communities with measurable, sustainable, and far-reaching results. To earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, high school-age Girl Scouts must identify and investigate an issue they care about, devise a plan, and then lead a team of experts and community members to implement a project

that produces lasting change. Over the course of 1 to 2 years, Gold Award Girl Scouts demonstrate significant initiative, commitment, and leadership, distinguishing them from their peers. Through their resourcefulness and perseverance, they embody the Girl Scout Law to truly make the world a better place.

Paige's project, "Growing Hope", in partnership with Growing Roots, addressed the challenge of finding accessible programs and opportunities for those with disabilities in our community. Paige took action by designing and building a wheelchair-accessible garden bed to help existing programs become more inclusive. She created an instruction manual to share with other organizations, providing a supply list, step-by-step instructions for building, and insights regarding the benefits of wheelchair-accessible garden beds. This project will have a positive impact on our community for years to come.

On behalf of Michigan's 3rd Congressional District, congratulations to Paige Kitts for achieving the highest distinction in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award. We thank Paige for her leadership and for making such a positive, enduring change in our community.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF ALAN BARRY CARR

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Mr. Alan Barry Carr of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, who peacefully passed away on June 8, 2025.

Alan was born on January 17, 1937, to James and Olive Carr. He attended the University of Maryland and the Virginia Polytechnic Institute for his bachelor's degree and master's degree. Alan later earned his Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics at Oklahoma State University. For many years, he worked as a congressional researcher for the Department of Agriculture and the Library of Congress. Afterwards, Alan taught Economics at Texas A&M University and spent some time teaching in Armenia. In addition to his passion for teaching, Alan enjoyed hunting, gardening, taking care of his dogs, and telling good stories to those around him.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capitol in recognition of Alan's wonderful life and legacy. He will be dearly missed by his friends, family, and all who knew him.

REMEMBERING THE HONORABLE WILLIAM LACY CLAY, SR.

HON. WESLEY BELL

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and remember the Honorable William Lacy Clay, Sr.

"We have no permanent friends, no permanent enemies, just permanent interests."

Our country lost a trailblazer. Congressman Clay passed away after a lifetime of service that reshaped St. Louis and our Nation.

Already a civil rights icon before he was elected, he didn't come to Washington to play politics. He came to fight for working people, Black families, union members, and those too often left out and unheard. He carried their voices into this chamber and made sure they echoed.

Bill Clay was a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus. I—and so many others—would not be here without the doors he opened and the example he set.

I'm holding his son, my friend and predecessor Lacy Clay, the entire Clay family, and the St. Louis community in my prayers.

HONORING DR. BARBARA NEMKO

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Barbara Nemko, Ph.D., on the occasion of her retirement after 28 years as Napa County Superintendent of Schools and a lifetime of service to education.

Dr. Nemko was born in the Bronx, New York, where her journey in education began. She earned her Bachelor of Arts and Master's degrees from Queens College, and started her career as a second-grade teacher in New York City. Her academic work continued at the University of California, Berkeley, where she earned her Ph.D. in Reading and Evaluation of School Programs in 1981, a milestone that also began her love affair with California.

After joining the Napa County Office of Education in 1991, Dr. Nemko was appointed as the Napa County Superintendent of Schools in 1997, and later elected to the position in 1998. Dr. Nemko held this role for an unprecedented 28 years. At the time of her retirement, Dr. Nemko was the longest-serving county superintendent in office in our state. Her tenure transformed Napa County's education system, establishing the Office of Education as a regional leader in early learning, special education, career technical education, mental health services, and professional development for educators.

Dr. Nemko was known for her forward-thinking leadership, particularly in advancing educational technology. She was an early advocate for closing the digital divide, securing technology and internet access for thousands of students in Napa County. She pioneered programs like the Superintendent's Fund to provide children with eyeglasses, orthotics, and other critical needs not covered by existing budgets.

Her leadership has extended beyond the classroom. Dr. Nemko served on the Community Corrections Board and Juvenile Justice Committee for her entire tenure as Superintendent, completed Leadership Napa Valley in 1999, and later joined its Board of Directors. She also served as President of the Rotary Club of Napa from 2013 to 2014. In recognition of her advocacy, she was named Woman of the Year for the 7th Assembly District by the California Legislature in 2009, received the Public Policy Advocate Award from the International Society for Technology in Education in 2014, and earned the Platinum Disk Award from Computer Using Educators in 2019.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Dr. Nemko is deeply committed to her family

and the arts. She has performed in numerous community theater productions with Dreamweavers, Lucky Penny, and Valley Players. She is married to Dr. Marty Nemko, an accomplished career coach, author, and writer. Together they raised their daughter, Amy Zubrensky, who served as a researcher in the Clinton White House, earned her law degree from Yale, and now serves as an Assistant U.S. Attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice. Dr. Nemko and her husband are the proud grandparents of Lea and Sara Zubrensky.

Mr. Speaker, for nearly three decades, Dr. Barbara Nemko has dedicated herself to strengthening Napa County's education system and enriching her community. It is fitting and proper that we recognize her extraordinary career, leadership, and service here today.

REMEMBERING JAMES VITALE

HON. CHRISTOPHER R. DELUZIO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Mr. DELUZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and memory of my constituent, James Anthony Vitale, who passed away recently at the age of 66.

Mr. Vitale was a dedicated civic leader in Moon Township.

He was a dedicated public servant, serving on the Moon Township Board of Supervisors for nearly 18 years, holding the positions of Chairman or Vice Chairman for 11 of those years.

And he was committed to his community, representing the township on the Board of Directors of the South Hills Area Council of Governments for 15 years.

Public service was in Jim Vitales' bones.

In Western Pennsylvania, a life like his—devoted to his family and community—shows exactly who we are.

Humble, proud, and always ready to do our part: Jim embodied the very best of Western Pennsylvania values: hard work, service, and dedication.

I am holding Jim's wife, Luanne Vitale, his family, and his entire community in my heart as we celebrate his life and mourn his passing.

CONGRATULATING JUDGE JIM KNECHT ON 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Illinois Fourth District Appellate Court Justice, James "Jim" Knecht, as he reaches the milestone of serving 50 years as a judge.

Jim was born in Lincoln, Illinois in 1944 and graduated from Lincoln Community High School in 1962. Afterwards, he attended Illinois State University and earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Illinois College of Law in 1973. While in law school, Jim was an editor of the Law Review and was honored as

a member of the prestigious national law school honors society, the Order of the Coif.

Jim began his judicial career as a law clerk to Illinois Supreme Court Justice Robert C. Underwood before serving as an Associate Circuit Judge for 3 years and as a Circuit Judge for 8 years. In 1986, Judge Knecht was elected to the Illinois Fourth District Appellate Court. Currently, he is the longest serving judge in Illinois court history and an accredited leader within the Illinois law community. He is a member of the Illinois State and McLean County Bar Associations, the American Judicature Society, the Illinois Judges' Association, the Appellate Lawyers Association, and is a fellow of the Illinois Bar Foundation.

Outside of the courtroom, Judge Knecht is heavily involved in our Illinois communities and within his alma maters. He serves on the Illinois Family Violence Coordinating Council and on the National Advisory Board of the Corporate Alliance to End Partner Violence. Additionally, he spent time as an adjunct professor at both Illinois State University and the University of Illinois College of Law. At Illinois State University, his time as an adjunct professor lasted nearly three decades and he is a recipient of their Distinguished Alumni Award.

I want to congratulate Judge Knecht on this momentous achievement and thank him for his continued service to the state of Illinois. I wish Judge Knecht, his wife Ruth, their children and grandchildren many years of happiness and success in the future.

RECOGNIZING LAKE COUNTY SCHOOLS ON EARNING AN "A" RATING FROM THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to recognize Lake County Schools in Lake County, Florida, for their outstanding achievement in earning an "A" rating from the Florida Department of Education for the 2024–2025 school year.

Lake County Schools currently operates 49 schools, serving students from pre-kindergarten through grade 12, with approximately 48,285 students and 2,696 teachers. This marks the first time since 2008 that the Lake County School District has earned this prestigious distinction, reflecting the district's unwavering commitment to academic excellence, student achievement, and community support.

Under the leadership of Superintendent Diane Kornegay and the dedicated members of the Lake County School Board, the district earned this "A" rating by achieving a high percentage of points based on student performance across a wide range of academic indicators. These include standardized assessments in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies, as well as learning gains in English Language Arts and Mathematics.

Among the most notable improvements were a 15 percent increase in Algebra 1 proficiency, a 7 percent increase in English Language Arts for grades 9 and 10, a 4 percent overall increase in English Language Arts

scores, and a 4 percent improvement in Civics end-of-course exam performance. Additionally, the district proudly reports a high school graduation rate of 93 percent, a significant achievement that speaks volumes about the commitment of the students, educators, and families of Lake County.

I am pleased to join our community in congratulating the teachers, administrators, support staff, and especially the students of Lake County Schools for their hard work, diligence, and determination in making this achievement possible. I thank them for their continued pursuit of educational excellence.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF ROSEMARY ENRICO

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and service of Mrs. Rosemary Margo Enrico of Dallas, Texas, who peacefully passed away on May 6, 2025.

Rosemary was born on September 28, 1944, in Chisholm, Minnesota, to Andrew and Rose Margo. She graduated from Marquette University in 1967 with a bachelor's degree in marketing. For 48 years, she was married to her childhood sweetheart, Roger Anthony Enrico, and they raised a large family with many children. Rosemary was a devout Catholic, schoolteacher, and generous philanthropist. Along with Roger, they founded the nonprofit Roger and Rosemary Enrico Foundation to support Catholic initiatives and provide life-changing scholarships to many economically disadvantaged students in North Texas.

In her free time, Rosemary was passionate about the arts and was an avid traveler. She enjoyed spending time with her family and traveling around the world with Roger. I am deeply saddened to hear of Rosemary's passing, as she brought compassion, kindness, and warmth with her presence wherever she went. The incredible impact she has made on our community will be remembered and felt for many years to come.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capitol in recognition of Rosemary's life and contributions to North Texas. She will be dearly missed by her friends, family, and all who knew her.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily