

Colorado, on his retirement following 33 years of service to the West Metro Fire Protection District.

Throughout his career, Chief Lombardi went above and beyond the line of duty, and focused on growing programs that saved Coloradans money and protected the health of our first responders. He started the Advanced Resource Medic across West Metro, which helps patients reduce cost in their healthcare expenses by treating patients in their own homes and cutting back on unnecessary trips to the emergency room. He also established the Colorado Firefighters Benefits Trust Program, which helps firefighters and fire agencies manage illnesses that affect first responders. Chief Lombardi led the West Metro through many fires on the Front Range, but his leadership extended to the wellbeing of his team and the people who live in our communities.

In recognition of Chief Lombardi's accomplishments, the Metropolitan Chiefs presented him with the prestigious Russell E. Sanders Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Federation of European Fire Officers honored him with the Cross of Merit award. In 2022, he was named Colorado State Fire Chief of the Year for his outstanding service. Chief Lombardi's career has an incredible legacy in our state.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Don on his well-earned retirement and to thank him for his service.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING
BRIGADIER GENERAL DAVID M.
JENKINS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 8, 2025

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the extraordinary service of Brigadier General David M. Jenkins, a trailblazing leader in the South Carolina National Guard who will soon retire after 35 years of distinguished military service. Brigadier General Jenkins' career is one defined by excellence, integrity, and selfless service—qualities that have left a lasting impact on the armed forces of our state and Nation. As he prepares to conclude his remarkable military service, he does so with the respect and admiration of those who served with him. He leaves so that the next generation of leaders can make their mark. This act of mentorship and setting the right example speaks volumes about his character.

A proud native of South Carolina, Brigadier General Jenkins began his military journey as an ROTC cadet at South Carolina State University, where he earned his commission on May 24, 1990. Over the next three decades, he would rise through the ranks, holding a series of critical command and staff positions—from Platoon Leader to Brigade Commander, and ultimately, Assistant Adjutant General Army and Land Component Commander for South Carolina. In this final post, he held individual accountability for the training, manning, and equipping of all Army National Guard forces within the state.

His career was shaped by both operational experience and strategic leadership. In 2004,

he deployed to Afghanistan, where he served as the Strategic Plans Communication Officer for the Joint Coordination Center—Afghanistan. At home, he played a key role in the Guard's responses to hurricanes, floods, winter storms, and other emergencies that tested the strength and resilience of South Carolina communities.

Brigadier General Jenkins' academic achievements reflect the same discipline and dedication that marked his military service. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from South Carolina State University, a Master of International Business from Xavier University, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College. His military education includes a long list of advanced training programs, from the Signal Officer courses to the Advanced Joint Staff College and the U.S. Army War College.

His contributions have been recognized with some of our Nation's highest military honors, including the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, the Army Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Army Achievement Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters—a reflection of his exceptional leadership, courage, and commitment.

Outside of uniform, Brigadier General Jenkins serves as Senior Director of Strategic Operations and Technical Delivery at Lexmark International. He is also a devoted husband to Dionne, his wife of 21 years, and a proud father to three children—Dillon, Sydney, and Aubrey.

The Army's seven core values—Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage—are deeply embedded in every service member. Brigadier General Jenkins embodies all of these values, with Selfless Service particularly prominent. His steadfast dedication to mentorship has shaped leaders both within and beyond the military. His commitment—to his country, state, community, those he leads, their families, and his colleagues—has been unwavering.

Brigadier General Jenkins' acts of selfless service reflect his upbringing, the love and support from his family, the lessons he learned at South Carolina State University, and the people who have influenced his life. I thank him for embodying the Army Values, extending the legacy of the South Carolina State University Bulldog Battalion, exemplifying the pillars of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and letting selfless service speak for him.

Brigadier General Jenkins and his family have devoted over 35 years to steadfast service. Through mission after mission—missing birthdays, holidays, and countless special moments—they have made tremendous sacrifices. On behalf of a grateful Nation, and the many men and women he's mentored and continue to inspire, we thank him for a job well done.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in honoring Brigadier General David M. Jenkins—not only for his exemplary service, but for the legacy of opportunity he leaves behind. He is a soldier, a leader, a mentor, and a role model—and South Carolina is stronger because of him. May the next chapter of his life bring he and his family as much fulfillment as he's given to our great state, I have no doubt Brigadier General Jenkins will continue to make us proud.

HONORING MARGAUX SAUVAGE

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 8, 2025

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Margaux Sauvage, for her work as an intern serving in my D.C. office. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her hard work and recognize the meaningful contributions she has made to the office this summer.

Margaux is from San Diego, California and attends Georgetown University. Margaux is entering her second year at Georgetown where she plans to study Global Business and National Security.

Interns work with staff to serve constituents in North Carolina's 11th congressional district. Margaux was chosen from a competitive pool of applicants and exceeded every expectation with her positive attitude and impressive work ethic. It was a pleasure to work with Margaux, and I am so proud to have had such an intelligent and ambitious intern representing my office.

Margaux exemplified the spirit of public service and represents the best that our Nation has to offer. I congratulate Margaux on the successful completion of her internship and thank her on behalf of the people of Western North Carolina.

RECOGNIZING JEREMY METZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 8, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jeremy Metz for his promotion to Chief of the West Metro Fire Protection District.

Deputy Chief Jeremy Metz has served the West Metro Fire Protection District for over 27 years. In his previous roles, Jeremy oversaw emergency medical services, administration, special teams operations, and strategic planning for personal safety and benefit. He has over three decades of on-the-ground experience in fire science and emergency services administration. West Metro and all the Coloradans they serve are lucky to have an incoming Chief with such an impressive and lengthy record of public service.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Jeremy Metz for his promotion to Chief of the West Metro Fire Protection District. We thank him for his continued commitment to the safety of our community.

CELEBRATING OUR 2025 SUMMER
INTERN CLASS FOR THEIR SERVICE
TO CALIFORNIA'S 20TH DISTRICT

HON. VINCE FONG

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 8, 2025

Mr. FONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and celebrate the exceptional interns

who have devoted their summer to serving the people of California's 20th Congressional District. From my offices in Washington, D.C., and Bakersfield, California, these students have exhibited maturity well beyond their years, offering their time, talents, and energy to support my work in meaningful ways. Then contributions have been a powerful reminder of the potential and promise embodied by the next generation. At a time when many young Americans are contemplating their role in civic life, these interns chose to engage directly with purpose and passion.

As their summer internships come to a close, I want to express my deepest gratitude to Daniel Bazmi, Jake Dowell, Michael Edmonston, and Rafael Barrientos Posada for their contributions to my Washington, D.C., office, and to Penelope Campbell for her service in my Bakersfield, California office. Their hard work has been instrumental to my team's efforts, and I am confident that the experiences and lessons they've gained will guide them toward continued success in their future endeavors in public service. I look forward to seeing where their paths lead, and I hope those paths include a continued dedication to serving others.

RECOGNIZING RECARDINA "DINA" BOCCIPPIO'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 8, 2025

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Recardina Boccippio, also known as Dina, as she celebrates her 100th birthday this year. It is my pleasure to join Dina's family and friends in honoring the wonderful life she has led.

On September 16, 1925, Recardina DePalma was born to Dominick and Michelina DePalma in Port Reading, New Jersey where Dina resided for 21 years. On October 27, 1946, she married the love of her life Angelo Boccippio and in 1953, they purchased their forever home in Woodbridge, New Jersey. Her loved ones refer to her as a pleasure to be around and a true inspiration.

For 10 years, Dina worked at Flagstaff Foods and Liquors. For the next 35 years, Dina worked as a private secretary and head bookkeeper for the Mauro Family at Mauro Motors. Now retired, it is clear she is living her best life as she is happiest spending time with family and friends. In her free time, Dina enjoys watching game shows and soap operas and is always ready for her next hair and nail appointments. After many incredible years, Dina Boccippio's contagious positivity and kindness is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in wishing Dina Boccippio another year of good health and happiness she celebrates the milestone of her 100th Birthday.

RECOGNIZING ELEVATION BEER COMPANY

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 8, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Elevation Beer Company of Poncha Springs, Colorado, for winning a Bronze Medal from the World Beer Cup for their Coconut Oil Man brew.

The World Beer Cup, otherwise known as the "Olympics of Beer," evaluates beers from around the world and recognizes the top brewers and their beers. Founded in 2012 and nestled in the Heart of the Rockies, Elevation Beer Company produces seasonal Belgian ales, specialty brews, and barrel-aged beers that put a twist on traditional styles of brewing.

Small businesses like Elevation Beer Company help drive the local economy of Chaffee County and the state's economy. For both natives and visitors to Poncha Springs, Elevation Beer Company provides excellent service and beers, contributing to Colorado's leadership in producing outstanding craft brew.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Elevation Beer Company for this accomplishment.

RECOGNIZING FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH'S 185TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 8, 2025

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend heartfelt congratulations to the congregation of First African Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia, as they celebrate a remarkable 185 years of faith and community. This great occasion will be marked by a celebration at the church on Sunday, August 10, 2025, at the church in Columbus.

Founded in 1840 by enslaved individuals in the antebellum South, First African Baptist Church began in a building located at the corner of Third Avenue and Twelfth Street, just a few blocks from the Chattahoochee River. This sanctuary was previously used by First Baptist Church, which was established in 1829 as Columbus's first church.

Although founded by enslaved people, First African Baptist Church was initially pastored by white ministers during its first twenty-two years. Demonstrating a spirit of love and acceptance for all, regardless of race, the church welcomed anyone in Columbus seeking to worship. By 1858, the church had baptized 731 members—390 white and 341 black.

Throughout its history, the church relocated three times to accommodate a growing congregation alongside the development of Columbus. Its second location was a frame building at the corner of St. Clair and Front Streets, now known as Eleventh and Front. In 1881, the Georgia General Assembly granted land at Eleventh Street and Sixth Avenue, leading to the church's renaming as Six Avenue Baptist Church. This site is now occupied by Golden Foundry and Machine Company.

The current church home, located at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Ninth Street, was established in 1915, at which time the church adopted its name, First African Baptist Church. Today, as we celebrate its 185th Anniversary, the legacy of this congregation stands as a testament to its resilience and commitment to faith. Over the years, the church has undergone several renovations, reflecting its evolving mission. Under the leadership of Reverend Roderick B. Green and his dynamic wife and First Lady, Lynn Hall-Green, First African Baptist Church continues to grow, driven by a vision of holistic transformation and continual improvement in Christ.

The scripture tells us in Matthew 16:18 that Jesus said, "Upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not prevail against it."

The story of First African Baptist Church, which began with a small group of devoted worshippers 185 years ago, is truly inspiring. It embodies the dedication and perseverance of a congregation that has put its love and trust in the Lord through both joyful and challenging times.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring First African Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia, for its rich history of faith, unity, and service to the community, as they continue to come together to worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

HONORING 70 YEARS OF THE LAND OF MAKE BELIEVE

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 8, 2025

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and celebrate the Land of Make Believe, an amusement park that has been an important landmark of the Hope Township, New Jersey community, for over seven decades. Since its founding in 1954 by Herman Maier, the park has remained family-owned and operated, with the Maier family upholding the same high standards of excellence and service that have defined it from the beginning. Today, Christopher Maier, Herman's son and the park's current owner, attributes its enduring success to a commitment to affordability, safety, and family-centered fun. As we mark the park's 71st anniversary, I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring this beloved institution and its legacy. I look forward to seeing it continue to bring joy to generations of families for years to come.

CELEBRATING 120 YEARS OF THE IRIS NETWORK

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 8, 2025

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable organization in my state that has been providing essential services and advocacy for individuals with vision impairment and blindness for 120 years. The Iris Network is one of Maine's oldest and most respected nonprofit agencies, known for its