

equipment at the Triple Seven Animal Rescue in Elmer, South Jersey, creating a doghouse tunnel, hurdle, and even re-purposing a fire hydrant to provide a lasting space for the animals in their care. Madeline is currently a student at Padua Academy, an institution known for preparing young women through a strong Catholic education rooted in academic excellence and community service. She is a role model for her peers, and her Eagle rank reflects not only her perseverance but also her deep commitment to faith, service, and community.

I congratulate Madeline on this spectacular accomplishment and I look forward to seeing what else she achieves. God bless Madeline and God bless our United States of America. The greatest country on the face of the Earth.

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF THE LANCASTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate and recognize the Lancaster County Conservation District (LCCD) on their 75th anniversary.

In 1950, the Lancaster County Conservation District, then called the Soil Conservation District, was officially incorporated by the county. Though the Conservation District had officially been organized since 1938, it only covered the southern part of Lancaster County. The new organization was wholly operated by its volunteer board until they hired their first employee in 1965.

The Lancaster County Conservation District raises awareness of environmental challenges and helps individuals and organizations with navigating them. Three quarters of a century since its founding, the LCCD has moved beyond its original scope of soil conservation. New programs include an erosion and sedimentation program, which helps to protect water quality, educational programs such as the Youth Conservation School and the Envirothon, their own Chesapeake Bay and watershed programs, an annual tree sale, and much more.

Just as important is the LCCD's collaboration with farmers and the local community, which makes everything they do possible. Farmers work with the LCCD because better agronomics and better environmental practices are intertwined. The LCCD also builds inroads with farmers to increase environmental awareness. An example of this is their Plain Sect program, which provides outreach to the local Amish and Mennonite communities, which comprise a significant portion of the farms in the district.

With the dedication of 40 employees, the LCCD leads the way in soil conservation and water quality. We owe our beautiful scenery and quality of life in part to the LCCD, which is why I am grateful for their work in Pennsylvania's 11th Congressional District. Congratulations to the Lancaster County Conservation District on 75 years, and I wish them many more years of success.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PASO DEL NORTE HEALTH FOUNDATION

HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 30th anniversary of the Paso Del Norte Health Foundation in El Paso, Texas.

Established in 1995, the Paso Del Norte Health Foundation has worked to ensure our binational tri-state community has the knowledge, resources, and support needed to lead healthy and productive lives.

For three decades, the foundation has partnered with countless local and national organizations to address some of the most critical challenges in the borderland—from chronic disease prevention, expanding mental health support, and helping develop the next generation of healthcare leaders.

The PDNHF has supported local governments, non-profits and educational institutions to promote health and the well-being of our community. Over its 30-year history, the PDNHF has helped reduce smoking, promoted diabetes awareness and increased physical activity and healthy eating, created a medical forgivable loan fund, programing to support oral health, support for the community through the COVID-19 pandemic, and support in growing El Paso's quality of life assets.

The community is grateful for PDNHF's investment in our region and congratulates the board and staff committed to this mission. I ask all my colleagues to join me in celebrating the incredible legacy of the Paso Del Norte Health Foundation.

WELCOMING HIS ALL-HOLINESS ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. ABRAHAM J. HAMADEH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer a warm welcome to His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, the spiritual leader of 300 million Orthodox Christians throughout the world and the current Archbishop of Constantinople, serving in one of the oldest sees in Christendom. This month, Patriarch Bartholomew will visit Washington, D.C., where he will be recognized as this year's recipient of the prestigious Templeton Prize, an award that has been garnered in the past by great historical figures such as Mother Teresa, the Dalai Lama, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

In his previous visits to the United States, His All Holiness has had visitations with five Presidents, he has spoken to both houses of Congress and has been awarded the Congressional Gold Medal; the highest award that civilian Congress can bestow. His next trip will maintain that longstanding tradition of friendship between the United States and the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

It is Patriarch Bartholomew's life that embodies ethical and principled leadership and

the patriarch's perseverance that became proverbial. Fluent in seven languages and a holder of several doctorates in Canon Law, he has tirelessly championed the cause of religious freedom, inter-faith dialogue and environmental responsibility—earning the endearing nickname “the Green Patriarch”, by stating that damaging God's creation is a sin.

At a time when religious persecution, catastrophes and tensions among religious communities seem to be dominating news headlines, Patriarch Bartholomew presents an alternate vision: “War in the name of religion is war against religion,” he tells us. He calls on people of faith of all traditions to be “peace-makers” and protectors of the Earth.

There are thousands of Greek-Americans living in Arizona's 8th Congressional District, including the hundreds of faithful at St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church in Peoria. They, and Orthodox Christians throughout our land, welcome this visit with joy. My constituents are particularly proud of the fact that Patriarch Bartholomew has been an outspoken defender of human dignity and has reached out to Jewish and Muslim leaders throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to Washington, D.C., and in paying tribute to his decades of ministry for peace, reconciliation and environmental stewardship. May God continue to bestow his example as a guide to defend religious freedom, choose cooperation over conflict, and secure a healthier, safer America for future generations.

HONORING EAGLE SCOUT ALEXANDER JOHN SCALICE

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to celebrate Alexander John Scalice of Gallo-way Township, whose hard work and dedication have earned him the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest distinction in the Boy Scouts of America.

Throughout his Scouting journey, Alex earned an impressive 40 merit badges in areas ranging from science, citizenship and communications, as well as serving in elected leadership roles within his troop. For his Eagle project, Alex designed and built six oar carriers for the Cedar Creek High School Crew team, where he proudly rowed for four years. Recognizing the financial challenges faced by the program, he secured donations from local businesses and individual supporters, organized a team of volunteers, and led them in completing this project. His work not only solved a practical problem for his teammates but also provided equipment that will support the program for many seasons to come. His commitment to service extended beyond Scouting. Alex volunteered many hours with his church and community, earning two Catholic Scouting emblems, demonstrating his devotion to both faith and country. As he prepares to study Biology and Pre-Med in college, Alex stands a role model for young people across South Jersey and a source of pride for his family, his troop, and our community.

I congratulate Alex on this outstanding achievement. God bless Alex and God bless

our United States of America. The greatest country on the face of the Earth.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL TONKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend votes on September 8, 2025.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 240, and YEA on Roll Call No. 241.

CELEBRATING THE APPOINTMENT OF REVEREND DR. WILLIAM CROWDER

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Dr. William Crowder on his appointment as the next Regional Minister and President of the Living Waters Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Born and raised in Memphis, Tennessee, Reverend Dr. Crowder was inspired by his mother, who instilled in him a deep sense of faith, discipline, and service. As a young man, he distinguished himself both as a student leader, serving as student government vice president and president at Central State University, and as an athlete, helping lead his football team to a championship.

Answering his call to ministry, Dr. Crowder entered United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. He was licensed by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in 1994 and ordained the following year.

Since then, Dr. Crowder has devoted his life to ministry and service, impacting communities far beyond the pulpit. Working alongside lay leaders of Park Manor and the City of Chicago, he helped bring forward a \$34 million senior housing project, secured a \$1 million state grant to combat gun violence, and contributed his time and insight on numerous distinguished boards. Through these efforts, he has lived out his calling to serve others and to strengthen the communities around him.

Reverend Dr. William Crowder's appointment is a testament to his lifelong devotion to faith and service. His leadership has strengthened congregations, uplifted communities, and left a lasting impact on Chicago and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Reverend Dr. Crowder for this new role and for the many ways he has guided others with wisdom, compassion, and faith.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unable to make the following vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 224.

RECOGNIZING KATE O'CONNOR HARPER

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kate O'Connor Harper for her service to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

A native of Chicago, Illinois and a graduate of the University of Chicago, Kate began her career as a Staff Assistant for Senator Mark Kirk (IL) before becoming Legislative Assistant and Correspondent for Senator DAN SULLIVAN (AK). In 2018, Kate joined President Trump's administration serving as Deputy Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration where she proved to be a valuable asset and became Chief of Staff in 2019. Later that year, Kate returned to Capitol Hill to become Chief Counsel of the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology for the House Committee on Energy and Commerce under Ranking Member Greg Walden. She continued to lead in this role under Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers and when I became Chairman, I knew I wanted to have her at the helm of this subcommittee. Under her leadership, her team passed historic legislation including the Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversaries Act and the reauthorization of the FCC's spectrum auction authority.

After serving three Chairmen and two Subcommittee Chairmen, Kate will soon depart Capitol Hill to work in the private sector as a telecommunications expert. I wish her the best, congratulate her on her new role, and thank Kate O'Connor Harper for her service to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the United States Congress.

RECOGNIZING COUNCILWOMAN PATRICIA "PAT" ANDALORO

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to recognize Councilwoman Patricia Andoloro for her many years of devoted service to the people of Buena Borough. She was recently celebrated at the Buena Boro Republican League dinner, a well-earned recognition of her dedication, integrity, and steadfast commitment to her community. Pat first served as the Borough Clerk, where she became the backbone of local government. In that role, she guided residents and colleagues alike with professionalism and care, ensuring that the daily functions of the borough ran smoothly. Her attention to detail and her deep knowledge of municipal operations earned her the respect and trust of everyone who worked alongside her.

Today, as Councilwoman, Pat continues to bring that same spirit of service and leader-

ship. She has shown an unwavering commitment to good governance, always keeping the needs of her neighbors at the forefront. The recognition she received at the Buena Boro Republican League dinner was not just a tribute to her past accomplishments, but a reminder of the lasting impact she continues to make. I congratulate Pat on a very well-deserved honor and I thank her for the great work she is doing in South Jersey. God bless Pat and God bless our United States of America. The greatest country on the face of the Earth.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ANDREW "ANDY" C. MACK

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Andrew "Andy" C. Mack of Londonderry, New Hampshire, a steadfast pillar for his community who will be remembered for his commitment to service and his great generosity.

Raised in Londonderry, New Hampshire, Andy was a Granite Stater through and through. Earlier in his life, he served his country honorably in the Army Chemical Corps before returning to Londonderry. Whether as a town moderator, volunteer firefighter, or Derry Rotarian, Andy spent his life working for the greater good of his neighbors and his town. He had a vibrant civic life and was known for his handmade, plywood road signs, which boldly shared his views on a variety of topics.

The passing on of Andy's property is just one of many remarkable examples of his dedication to the people around him. After being owned by his family for seven generations, Andy eventually sold his family farm to the town of Londonderry. In doing so, he made sure that the land would be used for local schools, civic organizations, and nature conservation.

Andy's passing is a profound loss to Londonderry, but I know that his legacy will live on through those who knew and loved him, including his sons, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. His life offers inspiration to Granite Staters across New Hampshire who care about and aspire to make change in their communities. I am grateful for his memory and for the lasting impact Andy has made on our state.

COMMENDING THE HISTORY AND SERVICE OF THE DELAWARE VALLEY FOOD PANTRY

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the remarkable history and service of the Delaware Valley Food Pantry in Lambertville, Hunterdon County.

For 70 years, this pantry has been a lifeline for families experiencing food insecurity in the Lambertville and New Hope communities. Since 1955, its dedicated volunteers have ensured that everyone who walks through its