

HONORING TEMPLE EMANU-EL'S  
75TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 26, 2025*

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th Anniversary of Temple Emanu-El in Westfield, New Jersey.

Since its founding in 1950, Temple Emanu-El has been committed to embracing innovation and creativity in the practice of Jewish life and support of the Jewish community. The congregation works to create a space for each member to find the expression of Judaism that makes them feel connected, included, and seen within their community. Temple Emanu-El was founded by 43 Westfield Jewish families of varying Jewish backgrounds who came together to create their own religious home. At this time, Jewish individuals could not purchase land in much of Westfield, and, despite local residents circulating petitions against the founding of a synagogue, the founders of Temple Emanu-El remained resilient and persevered.

Through traditional Jewish liturgy with Reform Jewish prayer and practice, Temple Emanu-El established a one-of-a-kind expression of Reform Judaism. Now comprised of 950 families, Temple Emanu-El creates a space where members participate in Jewish ritual life, educational programming, and lifelong learning. The values that members learn within the walls translate into the greater community of Westfield and Union County, where congregants engage in local, state, and national advocacy, philanthropy, and justice. The temple also encourages members to form a meaningful connection to the Land and People of Israel. Temple Emanu-El stands as the model of an engaged, creative, and vibrant Reform synagogue.

Mr. Speaker, as Temple Emanu-El celebrates 75 years of Jewish spiritual, cultural, and communal excellence, I am pleased to commend Senior Rabbi Ethan Prosnit and the congregation for being an integral part of the Westfield area. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring this community truly dedicated to faith and education.

TRIBUTE TO DR. LA-DINÉ  
WILLIAMS GAMBLE

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 26, 2025*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. La-Diné Williams Gamble, a devoted servant of God, a gifted musician, a tireless educator, and a beloved wife, mother, and grandmother. Dr. Gamble transitioned into eternal rest on Thursday, September 18, 2025, leaving behind a rich legacy of faith, music, service, and scholarship that touched lives across South Carolina and beyond.

Born in Lakewood, New Jersey, on February 27, 1964, to Johnny and Rudine Williams, La-Diné grew up in a faith-filled and education-centered home. From an early age, she displayed remarkable musical talent, be-

ginning piano studies at the age of five and later training at Juilliard. She excelled academically and artistically, graduating from Hillside High School where she was active in band, theater, and choir. She went on to pursue higher education at Shenandoah Conservatory, Seton Hall University, and Clark Atlanta University, where she earned her master's degree in public administration. Committed to lifelong learning, she completed doctoral studies in Christian Education at Gospel Without Borders Bible College and Seminary.

Music was her lifelong ministry. Dr. Gamble served as organist, choir director, and soloist for churches in New Jersey, Georgia, and South Carolina. She was a founding member of the National Baptist Convention USA Choir Auxiliary, served faithfully with New Ebenezer Baptist Church in Florence where her husband pastored, and was inducted into the South Carolina Baptist E&M Convention's Music Hall of Fame. She believed that music was a way God spoke to her, and she shared that gift in sanctuaries, classrooms, and celebrations across decades.

Dr. Gamble's professional life was equally impactful. She taught in higher education, guided young people through the Williamsburg County School District and Williamsburg Technical College, and directed grant-writing efforts that secured a \$25 million Race to the Top award. Even after retiring, she continued to consult with school districts and local governments, championing programs to improve education, healthcare, and opportunities for rural communities.

Her civic and cultural service extended through many affiliations, including the Lions Club, the American Leadership Forum, and her beloved Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Initiated into AKA in 1986, she served as president of two chapters, including Lambda Theta Omega Chapter in Kingstree, South Carolina, and exemplified the sorority's motto of "service to all mankind." Known for her elegance and joy, she approached each conference, convention, and gathering with grace, flair, and her radiant smile.

At the heart of her life was her family. She married Rev. Dr. Norman Gamble in 1993, and together they raised four children—Ti-Esha, Cambridge, Na-Dya, and Malcolm—in stilling in them the values of faith, education, and service. She delighted in her role as "Mommy La" to her grandchildren, Landon and Tihler.

Even during her courageous battle with pancreatic cancer, Dr. Gamble remained a beacon of hope. She brought joy to others with her trademark "fashion show" entrances at chemotherapy treatments and inspired countless friends and strangers through her uplifting messages of faith shared online.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in remembering and celebrating the extraordinary life of Dr. La-Diné Williams Gamble. She was a woman of deep faith, boundless energy, and remarkable talent who gave of herself in every sphere of life. Her music, her ministry, and her love will live on in her family, her church, and her community for years to come.

HONORING MATT MARTINKA

**HON. CHUCK EDWARDS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 26, 2025*

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to selfless service Linemen Matt Martinka of Duke Energy.

Mr. Martinka is a Journeyman Lineman in the Asheville area working for Duke Energy, a leading energy company that focuses on delivering electricity and natural gas services to the citizens of North Carolina. Mr. Martinka, along with apprentice linemen Nathan Curlee, were single handedly responsible for restoring power to the Asheville Veterans Affairs (VA) Hospital after the catastrophic events of Hurricane Helene.

Hiking over a mile and a half through flooded roads, fallen trees, and a devastated landscape, Mr. Martinka demonstrated remarkable dedication and perseverance to restore power to the VA hospital. Mr. Martinka is a veteran from a multi-generational military family, including his father, grandfather, son, and nieces, and embodies a lifelong commitment to service. Upon learning that power could be restored to the hospital, Mr. Martinka didn't hesitate to act. The people of Asheville have since expressed their deep gratitude, commending Mr. Martinka for his unparalleled courage and selflessness.

On behalf of all of Western North Carolina, I would like to take a moment to sincerely thank Mr. Martinka for his dedication and service to his community and to those who have served our country in uniform.

CELEBRATING NATIVITY MIGUEL  
SCHOOL

**HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 26, 2025*

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate Nativity Miguel School, a school dedicated to providing quality education to students throughout Western New York. The school fosters academic and personal growth within a supportive community where students are empowered to reach their full potential.

Established more than two decades ago, Nativity Miguel School was grounded in the values and educational principles of Father James F. Joyce. Father Joyce was sent to Buffalo, New York, to conduct a study of the educational needs and challenges of students in underserved communities. To address the problems, Father Joyce proposed the "Nativity Model," a proven method that has been successfully implemented in other Catholic schools throughout the state.

Drawing from its four pillars of courage, compassion, community, and contemplation, Nativity Miguel School walks arm-in-arm with its students and families throughout their educational journey, long after they have graduated. The school's delivery of unique and effective education, including dedicated teachers, personal and peer mentoring, and a strong emphasis on learning, creates an environment where every student can thrive.

Today, as we commemorate the ribbon-cutting ceremony of Nativity Miguel School's newest location, let us celebrate the growth of a mission rooted in hope, opportunity, and transformative education for every student who walks through these doors. Each graduating class builds on this legacy, carrying forward the values, education, and sense of purpose that Nativity Miguel School instills, and Western New York is all the better for it.

**HONORING PEDRO TURUSHINA AS  
A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN  
CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR HIS-  
PANIC HERITAGE MONTH**

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 26, 2025*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Pedro Turushina is the president and CEO of the Hispanic Chamber of Metro Orlando, where he leads the strategic direction of one of the top two chambers in the region. In this role, he develops proactive programs that strengthen membership engagement, foster collaboration, and create meaningful partnerships with key stakeholders across government, private, and non-profit sectors. His leadership positions the chamber as a catalyst for business ownership, economic advancement, and community empowerment.

A proud Colombian native who has called Orlando home since 2001, Pedro has dedicated his career to driving economic growth in Central Florida. Before leading the chamber, he was the founder and creative director of a marketing agency, supporting entrepreneurs and organizations in building their brands and strategies. Today, his vision extends beyond organizational leadership—he actively cultivates alliances that directly impact the region's economy, including partnerships with the cities of Kissimmee and St. Cloud, both part of Florida's Ninth Congressional District. Thanks to his efforts, both municipalities are now valued trustees of the chamber, underscoring the trust and collaboration he has fostered in the community.

Under his leadership, the chamber co-hosted a Small Business Town Hall with Orange County and SkyBuilders USA, creating a platform for local entrepreneurs to share needs, connect with peers, and shape the future of Orange County's Small Business Enterprise Program.

Pedro's authenticity and entrepreneurial background have made him a trusted advocate for small businesses, particularly in Osceola County, where the chamber has expanded its presence to better serve the Hispanic community. His commitment to empowerment and opportunity has earned him national and regional recognition, including being named a Top Latino Leader by the Council for Latino Workplace Equity. He has also been recognized as Orlando Business Journal's 40 Under 40, and recipient of the Citrus Club Hispanic Heritage Award as Future Leadership Trailblazer Man of the Year.

**HONORING HIS ALL-HOLINESS EC-  
UMENICAL PATRIARCH BAR-  
THOLOMEW**

**HON. RUSSELL FRY**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 26, 2025*

Mr. FRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople, a spiritual leader recognized around the world as both a bridge builder and a peacemaker.

For decades, Patriarch Bartholomew has endured harassment and persecution, yet he has remained steadfast in his mission to foster reconciliation between East and West, to promote interfaith dialogue, and to speak out forcefully against fanaticism and violence. His efforts to defend human rights and religious freedom have earned him deep respect among people of many faiths.

Patriarch Bartholomew's unwavering commitment to peace, compassion, and justice has left a profound impact on the world, and his example continues to inspire people across the globe.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing his extraordinary service and lasting contributions to humanity.

**WELCOMING ECUMENICAL  
PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW**

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 26, 2025*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate The Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, His All-Holiness Bartholomew, who is traveling to the U.S. this month to receive the prestigious Templeton Prize, on his achievements in interfaith dialogue. As this year's Templeton Prize Laureate, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew will join the esteemed ranks of past recipients, including Mother Teresa, the Dalai Lama, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

His All-Holiness has been a pioneer in merging spirituality with science as a force for change. As head of the Eastern Orthodox church, he has gathered scientists, scholars, politicians with Catholic, Jewish, and Muslim clerics. He also became the first Christian hierarch to visit countries like Libya, Syria, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Azerbaijan, Qatar, and Bahrain, building on his church's 550-year history of coexistence with Muslims.

In 1997, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal "in recognition of his outstanding and enduring contributions to religious understanding and peace." That same year, he decried pollution, deforestation, and climate change as "ecological sins." His All-Holiness' dedication to preserving our planet for future generations is an inspiration to us all.

I thank The Ecumenical Patriarch for his work on interfaith dialogue and protecting the environment, congratulate His All-Holiness on being recognized by the Templeton Prize, and welcome him back to the United States.

**RECOGNIZING NATHAN MORRIS,  
2026 ARKANSAS SUPER-  
INTENDENT OF THE YEAR**

**HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 26, 2025*

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Nathan Morris, current Superintendent of the Cross County School District. He is a dedicated Arkansan, a passionate educator, and a strong leader.

On September 15, 2025, Dr. Morris received the prestigious honor of 2026 Arkansas Superintendent of the Year. This award is presented to those who successfully lead learning in their districts, demonstrate strength in both personal and organizational communication, show continuous improvement in administrative knowledge and skills, and actively participate in local community activities while maintaining a deep understanding of regional, national, and international issues.

Dr. Morris' efforts have ensured a graduation rate of 98 percent with a growing academic proficiency rating. Cross County High School has been included in the lists by U.S. News and World Report for both Best High Schools and Best Charter High Schools. At the elementary school level, Cross County Elementary Technology Academy has been recognized as Top 10 World's Best Schools for Overcoming Adversity while under Dr. Morris' leadership.

Dr. Morris began his tenure as superintendent in 2018 and has since guided Cross County through a significant transformation. He has implemented programs that foster teacher leadership, professional collaboration, and growth which have led to lowered office referrals, boosted teacher effectiveness, and 20 percent growth in enrollment.

Dr. Morris exemplifies commitment, hard work, and an unwavering passion for academic success. His recognition as Superintendent of the Year is not only an incredible personal milestone, but a reflection of the great community we have throughout the First District of Arkansas.

I want to offer my sincere congratulations to Dr. Morris, and I look forward to his continued work in education.

**HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL  
DANIELLE CHRYSLER**

**HON. MARK B. MESSMER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 26, 2025*

Mr. MESSMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Danielle Chrysler for her distinguished career of service to the State of Indiana, our Nation, and the United States Army National Guard.

Lieutenant Colonel Chrysler most recently served as the Army Congressional Branch Chief at the National Guard Bureau, where she was the principal Congressional Liaison for the Director of the Army National Guard. In this capacity, she brought to bear more than three decades of experience in government affairs, defense policy, and cyber policy.

Her military career spans 15 years in the Indiana Army National Guard, including command of the 215th Area Support Medical