HONORING QUAKERTOWN WEST END FIRE COMPANY NO. 2 ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 30, 2025

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to rise in recognition of the distinct achievements and serviceable contributions of the Quakertown West End Fire Company No. 2, on this occasion of their 100th anniversary as of September 25, 2025. For a century, the men and women of the West End Fire Company No. 2 have served Upper Bucks County, Pennsylvania, with distinction, dedication, resilience, and valor.

West End Fire Company No. 2 is known as Bucks County Station No. 18 and has been completely staffed by volunteers since its formation in 1925.

Their unwavering dedication to continued training and willingness to serve their neighbors to meet the needs of the ever-changing fire service landscape is no better demonstrated than in their daily quick response to all types of emergencies.

Station No. 18 has modern fire equipment and is constantly adding to its services. As expected, they have the most modern Fire Suppression equipment, Heavy Rescue equipment, and Water Rescue equipment.

The West End Fire Company No. 2 is a sister Company to Quakertown Fire Company No. 1, which both operate as the Quakertown Fire Department.

Throughout its long history, Station No. 18 has embodied the core values of: Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do. They have safeguarded the Community, provided critical support in times of need, and stood ready to respond when called upon. Their knowledge and skills, and superior operational support personnel, have been, and continue to be, some of the most skilled and dedicated in the fire service.

As we celebrate this historic milestone, it is my distinct honor to celeberate those who faithfully served in the West End Fire Company No. 2 over the past century. Their sacrifices of their time and those of their families have ensured our fire safe security. It is with deep gratitude that we acknowledge their service and pay tribute to their bravery.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the 100th anniversary of the West End Fire Company No. 2, Quakertown, Pennsylvania, in extending a heartfelt thank you to the men and women who have served, and continue to serve, in this distinguished Fire Company. May the next 100 years of Firefighters serve with the same valor, honor, dignity, and dedication to duty as the exemplary men and women of the West End Fire Co. No. 2 have so expertly demonstrated over the last century of service.

WEST RECOGNIZING JOSEPH DRURY
2 ON CONNER AS OHIO'S 13TH CON-GRESSIONAL DISTRICT CHAM-PION OF THE WEEK

HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, September 30, 2025

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Jackson High School Automotive Teacher Joseph Drury as Ohio's 13th Congressional District Champion of the Week.

Joseph was recently awarded a \$50,000 prize for his school's skilled trades program as a winner of the 2025 Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence. He is 1 of just 25 teachers around the country to be honored with this award—a true testament to his determination to better the lives of his students.

This annual award was created to recognize excellence among high school skilled trades teachers, a group of educators that is frequently overlooked and underappreciated, yet so important to ensure that students have the tools to excel in a career in the trades.

Inspired by his own experiences as a high school student, he told his automotive instructor on graduation day that he wanted to be a teacher one day, too. He has 15 years of industry experience in dealerships and six years as a bus mechanic for Jackson Local Schools. Joseph is most passionate about sharing his love for automobiles with students, seeing them grow more confident as they acquire the knowledge and skills to become self-sufficient with automotive operation and upkeep.

By using real-world scenarios and hands-on projects, students gain practical experience with modern repair technologies, preparing them for future careers in the automotive industry. The Automotive Technology Program at Jackson High School prepares students to be high-tech automotive technicians, move into advanced training within the industry, or earn an associate degree in the automotive technology field.

Joseph's students have a 95 percent job placement rate within six months of graduation, with many students employed at local auto shops, dealerships, or starting their own businesses. In the last 3 years, 100% of students enrolled in Joseph's automotive technology classes have graduated, and 85% of them have done so after earning one or more industry certifications. Thank you Joseph for doing this work to inspire the next generation of skilled mechanics.

With this award, and all the hard work that came before it, Joseph is a shining example why Ohio's 13th Congressional District is known as the "Birthplace of Champions." He has certainly made Jackson High School and our greater community proud.

WELCOMING THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE, HIS ALL HOLINESS BARTHOLOMEW

HON. DON BACON

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, September 30, 2025

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents at St. John the Baptist Greek Or-

thodox Church in Omaha, I would like to welcome their Spiritual Leader, the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, His All Holiness Bartholomew, to the United States. He is visiting the United States next week to meet with the president and members of the House and Senate Leadership and to receive the revered Templeton Prize.

Known as the "Green Patriarch," he is well known for his efforts to promote ecology and the protection of the environment. He has been at the forefront of religious freedom and bringing together others from many faiths to work towards better cooperation and understanding. Through dialogue and visitations, the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew has significantly advanced Orthodox relations with the Roman Catholics, Lutherans, Baptists, and others through visitations and open dialogues.

In addition, His All Holiness has visited several Orthodox Nations that were part of communist Eastern Europe to strengthen his contacts and relations with various Orthodox national churches there.

The Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew has brought together Christians, Muslims, and Jews at international peace conferences and meetings to advance greater cooperation and mutual understanding. His efforts to promote mutual respect and religious tolerance included having theological conversations with Muslim and Jewish leaders.

His push for peace includes calling out both the Russian state and the Russian church for the invasion of Ukraine. In Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew's opinion, he says, "This is the theology that the sister Church of Russia began to teach, trying to justify an unjust, unholy, unprovoked, diabolical war against a sovereign and independent country—Ukraine."

The Ecumenical Patriarch is a figure who has addressed the European Parliament and the U.S. Congress (in 1997 when he received the Congressional Gold Medal), and has met Heads of State in Great Britain. Canada. South America, Greece, Russia, Norway, Finland, Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria, Albania, Ethiopia, Korea, and Cuba. As Ecumenical Patriarch (the only Christian Leader in the world who is considered equal to the Pope of Rome in honor), he has met with every Pontiff since John Paul II, including Leo XIV. He has also traveled to Libya, Syria, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Azerbaijan, Qatar, and Bahrain, and met with both political and religious figures in those Islamic countries, many of whom no other Christian hierarch of such stature has ever visited.

I welcome His All Holiness to the United States, and I congratulate him on his well-deserved honor.

HONORING LYNN ADAMS ON HER LIFETIME OF SERVICE

HON. SAM T. LICCARDO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, September~30, 2025

Mr. LICCARDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service and career of community leader Lynn Adams in celebration of her retirement. Since 2007, Lynn has served as the President of the Pacifica Beach Coalition (PCB), dedicating herself to promoting conservation, stewardship, and restoration.

Lynn began volunteering with the Pacifica Beach Coalition in 2002, working to clean up and restore Pacifica's beaches, coastlines, and habitats, ensuring our lands and communities thrive. Under Lynn's leadership, PCB cleanups have been organized across the San Mateo County coastline, encouraging countless volunteers to take action in their communities. Her commitment to preserving our ocean, coastal habitats, and wildlife has made an immensely positive impact along our coast-lines.

Her spark ignited the passion for public service in countless community members. Since 2005, she has increased participation in the annual Earth Day of Action from 150 to 8,500 volunteers, expanding the event's coverage in the city of Pacifica. She has also in-

creased the number of field education events by tenfold.

Lynn has been particularly devoted to engaging our community's young people. She has held countless events in elementary schools across the region and developed Pacifica's "Junior Ocean Stewards Program," which engages children from underserved communities in environmental stewardship and service from a young age.

Lynn's leadership is responsible for PBC's immense growth and impact. She has worked with corporate volunteer teams, coordinated programming, worked with local media, and advocated for crucial conservation policies. She has also formed naturalist and habitat restoration programs, which have evolved into core staples of PBC's programming.

In addition to her work in the PBC, Lynn has helped lead the Pacifica Land Trust as the Stewardship Coordinator, where she established a volunteer-based stewardship program with almost 1,000 volunteers. She has coordinated conservation efforts and developed programs that foster the appreciation, protection, and conservation of my district's natural habitats

Lynn's dedication to her work inspires us all. Her time as President of the Pacifica Beach Coalition has transformed conservation efforts along my district's coasts. She leaves a legacy of stewardship and service. Both our community and our natural world owe her a debt of gratitude.