

a fiscal year until the budget resolution for that year has been agreed to.

HONORING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF BROWNSVILLE

**HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 2025*

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and honor that I rise today to recognize the 175th anniversary of the First United Church of Brownsville, a cornerstone of faith, fellowship, and service in the Rio Grande Valley. For nearly two centuries, this congregation has stood as a beacon of spiritual strength and community engagement, guiding generations of Brownsville.

Founded in 1850 by the Reverend Nehemiah Cravens, who traveled from Alabama on horseback, the First Methodist Church began its mission of service to the people of Brownsville, Texas. Over the decades, the church has grown and adapted, relocating several times before establishing its current home on Boca Chica Boulevard in 1974. Through every chapter of its history, the church has remained committed to serving God and neighbor.

Among its many contributions, the church founded the Good Neighbor Settlement House in the early 1950s, a ministry that provides meals, shelter, and care to the homeless and migrant populations of Brownsville. This enduring service reflects the congregation's deep commitment to compassion toward the community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful South Texas, I congratulate the First United Methodist Church of Brownsville on its 175th anniversary. I commend the church's clergy and all members past and present for their enduring devotion to faith and community. May their light continue to shine brightly for generations to come.

HONORING ALEXA PENAVERGA AS A SHE LEADS AMERICA CHRISTIAN WOMAN OF DISTINCTION

**HON. LISA C. McCLAIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 2025*

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alexa PenaVega as a 2025 She Leads America Young Christian Woman of Distinction award recipient.

Alexa PenaVega is an actress, author, and producer whose career began at just four years old. Known for her breakout role in the Spy Kids franchise and dozens of film and television projects since, Alexa has grown up in the entertainment industry. Over the years, her journey as a wife, mother, and follower of Jesus has reshaped not only how she lives her personal life but also how she approaches her professional calling.

As Alexa's faith deepened, a noticeable shift took place in the types of projects she chose

to pursue. Together with her husband, Carlos, she founded Good For You Entertainment, a production company committed to creating high-quality content with the Kingdom at its core.

In recognition of her faith-driven leadership and positive influence, Alexa is being honored as a She Leads America Christian Woman of Distinction. This distinction reflects her dedication to living out her calling with integrity, courage, and Kingdom purpose.

For Alexa, faith is not separate from her art—it is the lens through which she views every decision. She believes storytelling has the power to inspire change, build community, and point people toward His light in a world often overwhelmed by darkness. Her work today is an extension of her walk with God.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this outstanding woman of distinction.

CONGRATULATING GERALDINE "BUBBY" LITVIN SHAFFER ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. MORGAN McGARVEY**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday October 8, 2025*

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary life and centennial milestone of Geraldine "Bubby" Litvin Shaffer, who celebrates her 100th birthday on October 28, 2025.

Born in 1925, Geraldine has lived a life centered on faith, service, and love for her family. Together with her beloved husband, Louis Shlomo Leib Litvin, she raised five children, and today, she is the proud grandmother to over 100 grandchildren and great-grandchildren, including Jewish leaders in America, Cyprus, and Israel.

Geraldine's devotion to her family is equaled only by her commitment to her community. In Boston, she distinguished herself as both an entrepreneur and education activist. While running a shoe store, she also headed the board of a Jewish school, working tirelessly for its success. In recent years, she has made her home in Kentucky, where she became a matriarch for her entire community. Known for her kindness and generosity, she volunteers her time and reaches out to all with warmth and care. She is a dedicated student of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, and is a devout Jew and incredibly proud American.

Mr. Speaker, Geraldine "Bubby" Litvin Shaffer's century of life stands as a remarkable testament to her resilience, faith, and love for others. I ask my esteemed colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to please join me in celebrating her 100th birthday and wishing her continued joy surrounded by family and community.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR INTERIM APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION AND THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS WITH RESPECT TO ANY FISCAL YEAR FOR WHICH APPROPRIATIONS ARE NOT OTHERWISE PROVIDED FOR THE COMMISSIONS

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 2025*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill that would exempt from federal government shutdowns the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPD) and the Commission of Fine Arts (CFA). This bill is modeled on a provision I have gotten enacted each year since the 2013 federal government shutdown to exempt the District of Columbia government from federal government shutdowns.

NCPD and CFA are both closed during the current federal government shutdown. Although NCPD and CFA are both federal agencies, they have a significant role in local D.C. land-use decisions. This bill would allow these agencies to reopen during the current shutdown and to exempt them from future shutdowns to prevent interruptions in local D.C. land-use decisions during federal government shutdowns. I have separately introduced bills to remove the authority NCPD and CFA have over local D.C. land-use decisions. Until Congress passes those bills, the agencies should be exempt from federal government shutdowns.

Under federal law, NCPD has approval authority for the development of D.C.-owned buildings located in the "central area," including the location, height, bulk, number of stories and size of such buildings. D.C. is required to consult with NCPD on the development of D.C.-owned buildings outside the central area, but NCPD has only advisory authority in those areas. The central area is defined by the concurrent action of NCPD and the D.C. Council and currently consists of the Downtown and Shaw Urban Renewal Areas.

Under presidential executive orders (EOs) and federal law, CFA has review authority for D.C.-owned parks and buildings, as well as for certain private land in D.C. Under EOs, CFA has review authority for the design of D.C.-owned parks and buildings. Under the Shipstead-Luce Act, CFA has review authority for the design of private buildings in D.C. "adjacent to public buildings and grounds of major importance," such as Rock Creek Park and the Potomac riverfront. Under the Old Georgetown Act, CFA has review authority for the design of private buildings in the part of Georgetown referred to as "Old Georgetown" in the act.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING DR. CORINTHIA  
RIDGLEY BOONE AS A 2025 SHE  
LEADS AMERICA CHRISTIAN  
WOMAN OF DISTINCTION

**HON. LISA C. McCLAIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 2025*

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Corinthia Ridgley Boone as a 2025 She Leads America Young Christian Woman of Distinction award recipient.

Dr. Corinthia Ridgley Boone is an author, bridge builder of unity, and an ambassador of prayer and reconciliation, both in the United States and internationally. She earned her Ph.D. in Philosophy and Counseling from Union University and devoted 25 years of service to the Prince George's County School System as a teacher, principal, and instructional specialist.

In 1987, Dr. Boone founded Together in Ministry International to foster international and interracial relationships among pastors and churches in the capital region. Building on that vision, she established the International Christian Host Coalition in 1996 to coordinate churches, ministries, and organizations in reconciliation efforts, evangelistic outreach, and compassionate service.

Since 1985, she has faithfully chaired the Capital City National Day of Prayer, uniting believers across denominational and cultural lines. Her leadership was recognized in 1988 when she was honored in Who's Who in Women's Ministry, and in 2025 is being honored as a She Leads America Christian Woman of Distinction.

Dr. Boone has served tirelessly on numerous national and regional boards. She has spoken widely across the U.S. and abroad, emphasizing unity, prayer, racial reconciliation, and generational bridges. She continues to serve as God's ambassador of prayer and reconciliation in this generation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this outstanding woman of distinction.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF  
COLONEL TRENTON N. TWEDT

**HON. ZACHARY NUNN**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 2025*

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Trenton N. Twedt of the Iowa National Guard, whose nearly four decades of distinguished service in uniform exemplifies unwavering commitment to our state and our country.

Colonel Twedt began his military career in 1986, enlisting in the United States Air Force as an avionics specialist. From those early days working on aircraft systems to later roles in command, he carried a steadfast dedication to mission and to the Airmen and women with whom he served.

After earning his degree from the University of Iowa, Colonel Twedt received his commission in 1999. This marked the beginning of a new chapter in a remarkable career that advanced from the enlisted ranks to the highest

levels of leadership within the Iowa Air National Guard.

His service carried him to many parts of the world, including Iraq, Afghanistan, Qatar, and Germany. Yet through all his overseas assignments, his heart remained in Iowa, where he guided and mentored Guardsmen to ensure they were trained, supported, and prepared to serve. His mentorship, including to myself as a Squadron Commander, where he imbued his leadership traits upon the next generation of Air Force officers as our Group Commander, reflects his enduring commitment to building leaders of character and service.

Over the years, Colonel Twedt has been a steady hand in moments of challenge, a trusted advisor to his peers, and a mentor to the next generation of Air Force leaders. His leadership has been recognized with the Legion of Merit and many other commendations. However, his most enduring legacy will be found in the lives he has influenced, the careers he has shaped, and the high standard of integrity he has upheld throughout his service.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Trenton N. Twedt has lived a life of service that exemplifies the very best of the Iowa Air National Guard and the United States Air Force. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our gratitude for his dedication to duty, his leadership through decades of change, and his contributions to our state and our Nation.

HONORING SIDEWINDER OF TEXAS  
FOR 41 YEARS OF MUSIC AND  
SERVICE

**HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 2025*

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate and recognize Sidewinder of Texas, a legendary band from Los Fresnos, for bringing joy and pride to South Texas for over four decades. Their music embodies the Valley's resilience, creativity, and pride, reminding us that "time flies when you're having fun."

Since its founding in 1984, Sidewinder of Texas has been a defining part of the Rio Grande Valley's music scene, blending their signature "Texas Style Rock and Roll" with deep community roots. Formed by David Valdez, Paul Pederson, Rey Ybarra, and Raul Garcia, they quickly earned recognition across the state and beyond with hits like Cruisin' on the Levee, Ready to Rock, Can't Take my Dreams, and My Country. Their music has reached audiences on radio, at the South by Southwest Music Festival, and through countless live performances.

Beyond their musical achievements, Sidewinder of Texas has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the community. They have donated their time and talent to many charitable causes, including Toys for Tots, the Muscular Dystrophy Telethon, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, and the Wounded Warrior Project. Their generosity and service reflect the spirit of unity and compassion that defines the people of Los Fresnos and the Rio Grande Valley.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of South Texas, I join the City of Los Fresnos in

honoring Sidewinder of Texas for their outstanding contributions to music, their dedication to service, and their commitment to representing our community with heart and pride.

CELEBRATING THE TOWN OF  
DAVIE, FLORIDA

**HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 2025*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize the Town of Davie, Florida's Centennial Celebration: 100 Years of Trailblazing.

A century ago, visionaries and pioneers laid the foundation of Davie with hopes, dreams, and a commitment to building a better future. And that vision has certainly come to life. Over the years, the people of Davie faced challenges, embraced change, and celebrated countless achievements. It is truly a town known for its spirit, resilience, and diversity.

The Town of Davie is home to nearly 107,000 residents who live across a lush 35 square miles within central Broward. The Town's rural atmosphere, western-themed district, and sprawling educational complex foster an environment that separates Davie from all other municipalities in Broward County. Green open spaces, numerous parks, over 165 miles of trail system, and the opportunity to live an equestrian lifestyle are amenities you won't find in today's growing South Florida.

The Town of Davie is also the nexus of higher education in South Florida where several nationally known colleges, technical institutes, and universities make up the South Florida Educational Center. And Davie's business climate ranges from entrepreneurial small businesses to the headquarters of Fortune 500 firms.

And the Town of Davie holds a special place in my heart. It's where my husband Steve and I bought our first home as we began our life together.

This 100th anniversary is a time to honor the past and the efforts of those who came before us, as well as celebrate the achievements of today and the next 100 years.

Congratulations to Mayor Judy Paul and the Town Council for working tirelessly to ensure Davie remains a warm, close-knit community with a hometown ambiance for all who live, work, and visit.

RECOGNIZING JENNIFER SEVILLA  
KORN FOR HER PUBLIC SERVICE  
AND LEADERSHIP

**HON. LISA C. McCLAIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 2025*

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jennifer Sevilla Korn for her public service and leadership.

A native of East Los Angeles and a proud Marine Corps spouse, Jennifer is a national conservative leader, policy expert, and political strategist whose faith has guided her throughout a distinguished 20-year career in public service. She helped elect and advise two U.S.