

an activity room with a cafe, social gathering areas, and an on-site beauty salon.

VRS expanded again in 2018, adding a new wing with 14 double-occupancy apartments and a fitness center for active residents. This growth reflects not only success, but the community's trust in the care, compassion, and excellence that define both VHS and VRS.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to recognize Valley Health Services and Valley Residential Services for fifty years of service, care, and commitment to our seniors. Their legacy of compassion will continue to shape the community for generations to come.

HONORING RINBAN GERALD  
SAKAMOTO

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 24, 2025*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the public service of Rinban Gerald Sakamoto of San Jose, California, who has served the Buddhist church and community in San Jose for four decades.

Mr. Sakamoto began his ministry journey in Hawaii, where he received his degree with an emphasis on Buddhism while working alongside ministers at the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin. Mr. Sakamoto then later moved to Kyoto where he completed his Tokudo ordination and training to become a minister for the Buddhist church.

Since Mr. Sakamoto's appointment to the San Jose Buddhist Church, he has been an active member of his community through youth outreach, Scouting programs, and community involvement. For many years, Mr. Sakamoto has led the opening and closing prayer at the Bon Odori dances that happen annually at the San Jose Odori Festival.

His teachings have emphasized compassion, interdependence, and the relevance of Buddhist values in daily life, using accessible metaphors such as the difference between square and round tables to illustrate spiritual concepts. Sakamoto's Dharma messages explore themes like birth and death, and the importance of relationships with others, with our ancestors, and with the world around us. His inclusive and thoughtful style bridges tradition and modern life, making Buddhist teachings approachable for people of all ages.

Rinban Gerald Sakamoto has helped bridge generations and make Buddhist teachings accessible to all. His thoughtful messages and inclusive leadership continue to leave a lasting impact on his temple and his community. As he approaches retirement, his legacy of service, compassion, and connection will be remembered with deep gratitude.

HONORING UNITED NATIONS DAY

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 24, 2025*

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my ongoing support of the United Nations on this United Nations Day.

October 24, 2025 marks the 80th anniversary of the effective date of the United Nations Charter, the UN's founding document. Since the UN's inception in 1945, its 51 original member states have now grown to 193, and the UN remains the one place on Earth where all nations gather together, discuss common problems, resolve disputes and forge shared solutions that benefit all of humanity.

Every year, the UN and its organizations assist and protect 139 million people fleeing war, famine and persecution through the UN High Commissioner for Refugees; provide food and assistance to 123 million people in over 120 countries and territories through the World Food Programme; and keep the peace with 61,000 UN peacekeepers in eleven operations across the world. UN-led international agreements address international needs ranging from intellectual property to the high seas and beyond.

In a recent trip to Mongolia to review the UN's wide-ranging efforts, my Congressional colleagues and I witnessed firsthand how U.S. participation in the UN both delivers lasting positive impacts to populations around the world and supports our national interests. For Mongolia, a country sandwiched between two of our geopolitical competitors, Russia and the People's Republic of China (PRC), support from the UN together with other multilateral and bilateral relationships is critical to addressing its economic, educational, health, environmental, social, cultural and security needs. This in turn enables Mongolia to pursue a mutually beneficial "third neighbor" relationship with other nations including our own.

It is alarming that, just as the world faces almost overwhelming challenges, from geopolitical to economic, humanitarian, developmental, health, weather and beyond, the current administration has made numerous decisions that have led to massive UN budget cuts, crippling the UN's overall efforts. While critics of the UN may claim that this is saving the U.S. money, this will only end up costing more in the long run as instability festers around the world in the absence of UN programming that feeds children and monitors intense conflicts, such as between Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Haiti's gang violence. It also leaves a vacuum of influence that bad actors are all too eager to fill with their goal of supplanting the international rules-based order under which both the U.S. and world have enjoyed three generations of relative peace and advancement.

On this 80th UN Day, let us remember that U.S. engagement in the UN is both a moral obligation to our world and a critical component of our country's long-term economic and national security strategy. Working together with UN member states, we can reduce international instability and create the conditions for transformational change that will expand the benefits of the last three generations into future generations.

To our UN 'ohana (family) around the world, wherever they are, past, present and future, I hope they know that, especially in these difficult times for an indispensable organization in which we all believe deeply, their steadfast commitment to their mission and a broader purpose is deeply appreciated and valued.

HONORING ANNIE FRIAS-RAMOS  
AS ONE OF CALIFORNIA'S 8TH  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT'S  
WOMEN OF THE YEAR

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 24, 2025*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Annie Frias-Ramos, recognized as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year. Annie was born in the Philippines, yet despite many challenges, she persevered and earned her degree in nursing from Southwestern University. In 1975, she became one of the first from her village to immigrate to the United States and began her nursing career at St. Joseph's Hospital in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She later moved to California, where she continued her dedicated service in healthcare at Vallejo General Hospital, Doctors' Hospital, and ultimately at Kaiser Permanente. At Kaiser Permanente, Annie advanced to the role of Nurse Manager, leading her team with distinction. Annie is currently serving as President of the Filipino Community of Solano County, Inc., and previously served as President of the Visayan Circle of Northern California for over 27 years. Annie has led numerous initiatives that demonstrate both vision and compassionate leadership, including serving as Chairperson for Vallejo's Pista sa Nasyon festival and leading one of the first COVID-19 vaccine clinics in Solano County. In addition, Annie has organized a fundraiser to renovate deteriorating church seating for a local community church and has connected unhoused community members to local housing resources. Annie also continues to support Filipino communities, such as by leading food drives and relief efforts for typhoon victims in the Philippines and advocating for immigration assistance. On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Annie Frias-Ramos for her invaluable contributions to our community.

PROCLAMATION HONORING REV-  
EREND ANTHONY "FATHER  
TONY" GALLAGHER

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 24, 2025*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following proclamation honoring Reverend Anthony "Father Tony" Gallagher:

Whereas, the Reverend Anthony "Father Tony" Gallagher, a beloved son of Toledo and a priest of the Diocese of Toledo since his ordination in Rome in 1961, has devoted more than six decades of his life to faith, service, and the pursuit of justice for all people; and

Whereas, as the eldest of six children, Father Gallagher has exemplified a lifetime of humility and leadership, serving parishes from Port Clinton to Grand Rapids, and providing spiritual guidance rooted in compassion, inclusivity, and a steadfast belief in the dignity of every human being; and

Whereas, Father Gallagher has embodied the principles of social justice throughout

his ministry, walking in the proud tradition of priests such as Monsignor Geno Baroni and Father Martin Hernady, tirelessly advocating for the poor, the marginalized, and those without a voice in our society; and

Whereas, in retirement from assigned parish ministry since 2009, Father Gallagher has continued his vocation of service—working with the Multifaith Council, Social Justice Advocates, Care of Creation, the CCMT School, and the Association of U.S. Catholic Priests—to advance understanding, promote equality, and strengthen bonds among people of all faiths and backgrounds; and

Whereas, his ministry of presence, his philosophy to “show up, shut up, and cheer,” has inspired generations of Toledoans, demonstrating what it means to encounter and accompany others with grace and humility; and

Whereas, Father Gallagher’s deep empathy and compassion are reflected not only in his advocacy, but in the quiet acts of kindness that have defined his life from feeding the hungry at Claver House and St. Paul’s Community Center to offering comfort and companionship to those in prison and on the streets; and

Whereas, as Father Gallagher celebrates his 90th birthday on November 21, 2025, the people of Northwest Ohio and all who his ministry has touched give thanks for his enduring witness to faith, justice, and love of neighbor;

Now, therefore, be it proclaimed, that I, MARCY KAPTUR, Member of Congress for the Ninth Congressional District of Ohio, do hereby recognize and commend Reverend Anthony “Father Tony” Gallagher for his lifetime of selfless service, his moral courage, and his unwavering commitment to the common good. Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the City of Toledo hereby recognizes and commends the Reverend Anthony Gallagher for his outstanding service and significant contributions to our community and to our common good; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the City Citation of Merit be presented to Father Gallagher as a token of this city’s deep appreciation and gratitude for his unwavering dedication to making Toledo a better place for us all.

#### CELEBRATING THE OPENING OF THE RALPH C. WILSON, JR. CENTENNIAL PARK

#### HON. SHRI THANEDAR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 2025

Mr. THANEDAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the opening of Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park in Detroit on October 25, 2025.

Each year, more than three million people visit the Detroit Riverfront, one of the highest-rated riverfronts in the United States, bringing in revenue and exposure to our community. The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park is a 22-acre park that will have a 4-acre playground, a sports house with basketball courts, and a 2.5-acre water garden. The opening of this park is part of a 5.5 miles long revitalization project along the riverfront, part of a larger commitment by the city of Detroit to reinvest into the community and continue our city’s historic revitalization.

The namesake of this park, Ralph Cookerly Wilson Jr., was raised in Detroit, Michigan, the son of a salesman and who had ambitions for

bigger and better things in life. A veteran of World War II, Mr. Wilson embodied the true virtues of leadership, sacrifice, and service to his country and community. Most famously, he is known for founding and owning the Buffalo Bills football team, at one point being the oldest owner of a National Football League (NFL) team. His contributions, like those being made through his foundation, will be remembered and felt by the Detroit community for years to come.

Since I became the U.S. Representative for Michigan’s 13th congressional district in 2023, I have been incredibly proud to see the amount of work being done by the community and the funds being brought in for reviving Detroit and the surrounding neighborhoods and townships. Projects like the Michigan Central Station, the New Center project, and the building of new affordable housing are all promising developments that will bring more opportunities and improve the quality of life for all Detroiters. Developments like the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park build on the Motor City’s greatness, and I look forward to continuing this work through efforts made in the halls of Congress.

#### HONORING BRITTNEY GREER AS ONE OF CALIFORNIA’S 8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT’S WOMEN OF THE YEAR

#### HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 2025

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Brittney Greer as she is honored as one of California’s 8th Congressional District’s Women of the Year. Brittney serves her community as the driver of Bus 9 for the Travis Unified School District. Through her work, she not only ensures the safety and secure transportation of the children of our community, but she does so with consistent positivity and optimism. As a loving mother of three children, it comes as no surprise that Brittney’s kindness, care, and diligence make a daily impact on the students and families of the Travis-USD community. Brittney goes above and beyond to ensure the safety of her students, checking the bus for any potential mechanical issues every morning, and fixing them herself if possible. She is a source of consistency for parents providing a reliable, safe and caring environment for the students. This is a responsibility she does not take lightly, and she does so with grace. In addition to her role as a school bus driver, Brittney also displays leadership by serving her church congregation in Antioch, helping address the needs of her community. After realizing her community lacked support groups for women, she began studying to attain her certificate in Christian Life Coaching, with the goal of starting a women’s support group. Brittney is a committed, pivotal part of the community, and her work improves the lives of the students and families within it. On behalf of the people of California’s 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Brittney Greer for her positive contributions to our community.

#### RECOGNIZING MR. RANDALL BRYANT’S SELECTION AS CHAIRMAN OF THE DART BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### HON. JASMINE CROCKETT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 2025

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Randall Bryant, my constituent and the incoming Chairman for the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) Board of Directors. His selection as Chairman is not only a testament to the agency’s forward momentum, but it also marks a milestone: Mr. Bryant is now the twenty-second board chair in DART’s forty-two-year history, and he becomes the youngest individual ever to lead the Board.

Mr. Bryant joined the DART Board following his appointment by the Dallas City Council in 2024 to fill a vacancy, and he was reappointed to a full two-year term in May 2025. Over the past fifteen years, he has served our city through multiple appointments to boards, commissions, and committees, including his prior role as Immediate Past Chair of the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, and his membership on the Dallas Citizens Council and North Texas Commission.

Since joining DART, Mr. Bryant has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), and he will now represent DART on the Regional Transportation Council. His broad experience in civic, business, and community affairs positions him well to lead at this pivotal moment for transit in our region.

Under his upcoming chairmanship, DART is poised to advance its role as the mobility backbone of North Texas. Established in 1983, DART now serves a 700-square-mile service area across thirteen member cities, including Addison, Carrollton, Cockrell Hill, Dallas, Farmers Branch, Garland, Glenn Heights, Highland Park, Irving, Richardson, Rowlett, Plano, and University Park. Its network spans light rail lines, bus routes, commuter-rail service (the Trinity Railway Express and as of this weekend the new Silver Line), GoLink on-demand services, and paratransit. Recently, DART has adopted an updated Strategic Plan setting bold new vision and mission statements, guiding the agency into the decade ahead as a “first-in-mind mobility partner” and a premier regional economic and mobility asset. With Mr. Bryant’s leadership as chair, I am confident the Board will continue building on DART’s legacy of innovation—expanding service, improving accessibility, enhancing sustainability, and ensuring that transit remains affordable and reliable for all our neighbors.

Again, I extend my congratulations to Mr. Randall Bryant. I thank him for his ongoing service throughout our community and for his commitment to ensuring the presence of safe, accessible, and affordable transportation for all our neighbors across the region. I look forward to our continued partnership.