

America's Teen competition, finishing as a semifinalist. Southern Ohio is so proud of her and will continue cheering her on in her future endeavors.

Olivia Fosson earned the title of Miss Ohio 2025 in June of this year. She grew up on a Christmas tree farm in Kitts Hill and made history as the first Miss Ohio from Lawrence County.

Olivia is proud of her rural and Appalachian roots and hopes to be a role model for other small-town girls. She is a musical theater graduate of Oklahoma City University and is currently pursuing a law degree at The Ohio State University.

Olivia's community service initiative focuses on the importance of fueling your body and recognizing when you need rest. It is her mission to share her story so that those struggling with body image issues know they aren't alone. She hopes to promote sustainable habits and a positive self-image for the next generation.

Olivia represented our Buckeye State in the Miss America competition this past weekend, showcasing the best Ohio has to offer and making her hometown proud.

These programs are a part of the Miss America scholarship organization, the largest scholarship provider to young women in the world.

As a father of three girls, I am happy to see young women like Allison and Olivia setting a great example for girls around them of confidence, a solid work ethic, and a drive to serve others.

This program is more than just a pageant. It promotes healthy living, creative expression, and academic achievement, while offering scholarship opportunities that help young women achieve their educational dreams. It fosters personal growth, professional development, and a powerful network of female leaders who are making a difference in their communities and beyond. Its mission is simple yet powerful: to prepare great women for the world and the world for great women.

Southern Ohio is proud of Allison's and Olivia's accomplishments and the ways they have given back to our Buckeye State communities. We are cheering them on and can't wait to see what they will achieve in the years ahead.

REMEMBERING MATTHEW JUNIPER

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Matthew Juniper, a former member of the Wellston Police Department, who tragically passed away on August 30, 2025, due to an off-duty accident.

Throughout his life, Matthew demonstrated a deep commitment to his community, serving as a police officer, a former deputy sheriff, and a volunteer firefighter.

Matthew consistently put his community first and was a beloved member of the police department. His colleagues described him as a joy to be around and everything you would want in a police officer.

Beyond his role as a first responder, Matthew was a loving father, son, and brother who enjoyed the simple pleasures of life: hunting, fishing, and spending time with family.

Matthew will be fondly remembered by his friends and family, who will carry him with them in everything they do.

It is people like Matthew who put service above self that make this country exceptional.

My thoughts and prayers are with Matthew's family. He will never be forgotten.

Please join me in a moment of silence to recognize Matthew and pray for his family.

CELEBRATING EXTRAORDINARY CAREER OF HERBERT BELLAMY, JR.

(Mr. KENNEDY of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the extraordinary career of my dear friend, Herbert Bellamy, Jr., the longest serving member and chairman of the Buffalo Sewer Authority board, who recently retired after 33 years.

After being appointed to the board in 1991, Herb was elected as chair on July 1, 1994. As chairman, Herb championed diversity, equity, and inclusion among the authority's workforce, appointing the first Black general manager in the authority's history and expanding contract opportunities for minorities and women-owned businesses.

Through his steady leadership, Herb has set a standard for navigating challenges while keeping the focus on service and community, so when the Niagara Business Association sought a new president, it was only fitting that Herb was entrusted with the role this past July.

In each and every endeavor, Herb has built a culture of accountability and empowerment. As CEO of Bellamy Enterprises, Buffalo Black Achievers, and Niagara Falls Black Achievers, among many other hats he wears, Herb has consistently created platforms that amplify excellence in our community and nurture the next generation of leaders.

Building on his father, Herb Bellamy, Sr.'s legacy, the Bellamy name remains synonymous with leadership, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to uplifting communities too often overlooked.

The Bellamy family's impact on our community is also felt through Herb and Marilyn, his wife; their three children, Jason, Chantelle, and Brandon; and their grandson, Jaxon.

I have had the distinct privilege of working alongside Herb over the years, and I have seen firsthand the quiet strength, humility, and conviction he brings to every room.

Herb has helped lay the foundation for a more just, more inclusive, and

more vibrant future for every western New Yorker. I thank Herb for his service, for his vision, and for showing all of us what it means to lead with heart, with purpose, and with people in mind.

May his next chapter be filled with the same passion and dedication that have defined his incredible journey so far. On behalf of a grateful community, State, and Nation, I wish my good friend, Herb Bellamy, Jr., nothing but the best and Godspeed.

CELEBRATING MAVERICK INNOVATION GATEWAY GRAND OPENING

(Mr. FINSTAD of Minnesota was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. FINSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Minnesota State University, Mankato, on the grand opening of their new Maverick Innovation Gateway.

This center represents the very best of southern Minnesota, where innovation meets hard work and where our next generation of leaders will gain the skills to drive our economy forward.

With the support of community partners like Nidec and many others, this facility will provide students with hands-on experience, foster entrepreneurship, and prepare young people to meet the workforce demands of tomorrow.

As a proud Minnesotan, I know firsthand the impact that institutions like MSU-Mankato have on our families, our businesses, and the vitality of our region.

The Maverick Innovation Gateway will be an invaluable resource for students not only to build the skills necessary to fill critical jobs but to take what they are learning in the classroom and translate it to real-world job experiences.

This new addition to the MSU campus is more than just a building. It is a promise to students and employers that southern Minnesota is and will remain a hub of opportunity and innovation across our State and Nation.

Mr. Speaker, today, I congratulate President Inch, faculty, staff, students, and the entire Mankato community on this exciting achievement.

TAXING EXCESSIVE CEO PAY

(Ms. TLAIB of Michigan was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, working people are sick and tired of corporate greed. It is time to say enough is enough.

Last year, Starbucks CEO Brian Niccol made almost \$96 million. The average Starbucks worker made less than \$15,000 a year. They would have to work more than 6,000 years to match Starbucks' CEO pay.

While Starbucks is among the worst, it is not the only one in the United States. Among the 100 S&P 500 companies with the lowest worker pay, the

average CEO makes 632 times more than their workers.

This is absurd, and it is immoral. It is corporate greed. It leads to income inequality in our country and drives wage stagnation. It doesn't have to be like this.

This is why I am introducing the Tax Excessive CEO Pay Act. While these CEOs float around on their yachts, millions of Americans, our residents, are drowning in credit card debt and struggling to keep their heads above water.

This level of inequality is a threat to our democracy, and this kind of economic power concentrated in a few hands truly hurts our families.

CEOs in the 1970s made roughly 25 times the average pay of their workers. Today, it is 290 times more. I want folks to think about that because these are workers who depend on us, the Federal Government, to subsidize these poverty wages. They are on Medicaid and getting food assistance because their CEOs are focused on profit and their own pay instead of taking care of their workers.

This bill would apply higher corporate tax rates to companies that pay their CEOs higher amounts of compensation compared to their workers. It is triggered if it is 50-1. That is the trigger, 50-1, that a company will pay more in corporate tax if that is the case. The greater the ratio, the larger the increase in the tax rate.

This will not only incentivize more reasonable CEO pay packages, but it would also compel companies to increase their workers' pay and take care of their workforce.

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This level of inequality we face is a threat, again, to our families' economic stability and livelihood. In this Chamber we constantly have to subsidize. We constantly have to take care of the workers when their CEOs and the companies don't do that.

I urge my colleagues to please support the Tax Excessive CEO Pay Act.

WAR PROFITTEERING

Ms. TLAI B. Mr. Speaker, Republicans already voted to give \$5 trillion tax breaks to the richest Americans, paid for by ripping food from children's mouths and kicking 17 million people off of their healthcare.

Trump's big betrayal bill—and that is what I call it because it is a betrayal to the American people—also included \$150 billion for the Pentagon's war machine. Here we are this week, again, debating another obscene \$892.6 billion military budget. It is not helping our veterans. That is not where they get, literally, healthcare, mental health support, and the things they need. That is over a trillion dollars to Trump's so-called Department of War, even after the Pentagon failed seven audits in a row.

As recently as 2023, the Pentagon could not even account for 62 percent of its assets—a trillion dollars, while the President is deploying troops in

our neighborhoods and threatening to go to war against American cities.

It seems my colleagues can always find time and money for war, but when it comes to clean water, when it comes to being able to address the needs of our people, there is never enough money.

Why is it that when it comes to, again, trying to make sure people have healthcare, being able to address the Housing crisis, being able to tell our families that we are doing the best that we can, all I see is the bipartisan support for a war machine budget that can't pass an audit?

I want people to look at this and pay attention because they will never, ever fully fund Medicaid, universal school meals for every hungry child, or guarantee healthcare as a human right in our country. I think maybe it is because many of my colleagues in this Chamber are actively profiting financially when they vote to pass more funding for weapons and war because they own stock in war manufacturing.

I introduced an amendment to this war machine budget to add the Stop Politicians Profiting from War Act to put an end to this corruption by banning Members of Congress and their families from owning defense stocks.

My colleagues should not be able to use their positions of power to get rich from defense contractors while voting to pass more funding for war. Our elected officials should not be able to profit off of death.

The American people deserve Representatives who vote in the best interests of our families. We are elected to serve the public, not to serve stock portfolios or campaign contributors.

The American people deserve better. We are sick and tired of politicians profiting off of endless wars.

HONORING BETTY ANN MATTHIES

(Ms. DE LA CRUZ of Texas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. De La CRUZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of former Seguin mayor, Mrs. Betty Ann Matthies.

Born and raised in Guadalupe County, Mrs. Matthies graduated from Seguin High School in 1953 and went on to become a registered nurse.

After marrying her beloved husband, "Pokey," she returned to Seguin to begin her 42-year career helping shape and grow what is now Guadalupe Regional Medical Center.

Throughout the years, Mrs. Matthies rose through the ranks, holding to her guiding principle: Always do what is best for the patient.

Following her work in healthcare, she carried her passion for service with the Seguin City Council and her work as mayor, always doing what is best for the community.

Whether as a leader, a mother, or a friend, she encouraged everyone to pursue their passions and live life to the

fullest. Her inspiring legacy and service will always be remembered.

RECOGNIZING SABRINA WALKER-HERNANDEZ

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the life of Sabrina Walker-Hernandez, a truly remarkable and selfless woman who dedicated her life to serving her country, her family, and the community of Edinburg, Texas.

After serving 4 years in the U.S. Army, she earned a master's degree in public administration from UTRGV. For 10 years, she served as the CEO of the Boys & Girls Club of Edinburg in the RGV where she helped raise over \$11 million for their new building to provide more young Texans with space to learn and grow.

In addition to being a gifted speaker and a published author, she gave her time to numerous boards, including the Museum of South Texas History.

Her compassion shone through during her own battle with cancer, and she used her journey to raise funds and awareness for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

In 2023, she was recognized as the Woman of the Year by the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce for her community service.

Her incredible life and legacy are remembered by her family, friends, and all of south Texas.

UTRGV FOOTBALL PROGRAM

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Madam Speaker, today I proudly rise to celebrate a landmark moment for the Rio Grande Valley, the inaugural season of the UTRGV football program.

Four years in the making, the UTRGV Vaqueros have finally hit the field along with their new drill team and marching band.

A new tradition has begun in the Rio Grande Valley. Nearly 13,000 proud fans came to watch the first game against Sul Ross.

The valley is excited to unite around this Rio Grande Valley football team, and we are ready to keep cheering our team on. We wish you the best season. V's up.

MARKING SOLEMN EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF HURRICANES IRMA AND MARIA

(Ms. PLASKETT of the Virgin Islands was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Madam Speaker, as we mark the solemn eighth anniversary of Hurricanes Irma and Maria making landfall in the Virgin Islands, each as Category 5 hurricanes, I rise today to speak about the remarkable resilience of Virgin Islanders, the critical Federal partnership that secured the necessary funding for our recovery, and the transformative opportunity which is on the cusp of realization for our people.

On September 6, 2017, Hurricane Irma pummeled the territory, shredded roofs, destroyed our utilities, and shattered lives.