

Seminole people for their historic and ongoing contributions to our shared story.

The city of Hollywood is deeply committed to sustainability and innovation, ensuring that future generations can continue to enjoy the city's remarkable natural resources. The city's unique charm lies in its ability to balance progress with preservation.

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.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to Mayor Josh Levy and the city commission for working tirelessly to ensure that Hollywood remains a world-class destination where residents thrive, businesses prosper, and visitors feel welcome.

Happy 100th anniversary to Hollywood and all its residents.

RECOGNIZING JONATHAN RODRIGUEZ

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

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jonathan Rodriguez, a U.S. history teacher at Pharr-San Juan-Alamo Memorial Early College High School for his heroic and compassionate actions.

Without hesitation, Mr. Rodriguez jumped to the rescue to help one of his former students following a vehicle collision. For his compassionate actions, the PSJA ISD awarded the first-ever Heart of Service Coin.

This coin is a distinct honor awarded to individuals who embody the values: protecting, serving, and rising above, in all aspects of our community.

Mr. Rodriguez exemplifies these ideals every day, going above and beyond for his students and bringing his experience as a volunteer firefighter to his role as an educator.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Rodriguez for his heroism and his quick action to save a young student's life.

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF WILSON COUNTY NEWS

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to celebrate more than 40 years of the Wilson County News, a cornerstone of community journalism in south Texas.

In 1984, Elaine Kolodziej turned her vision into reality, launching the Wilson County News without any prior publishing experience but with the dream to give her community a true local paper. She even hand-delivered each issue herself every Tuesday to ensure it reached the readers.

Under Elaine's leadership, Wilson County News flourished as a woman-owned and -operated small business. Through the years, they have adapted to new technologies to expand coverage and launch their website in 2002 to bring local stories to an even wider audience.

Today, the Wilson County News continues its proud tradition of delivering high-quality journalism.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Elaine and the entire Wilson County News team for more than four decades of dedication to delivering news to Wilson County.

RECOGNIZING AIDEN REED

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the accomplishments of a Poth High School senior, Aiden Reed, the 2025 UIL 3A State Shot Put champion.

After earning silver at last year's championship, Aiden returned with determination and achieved gold to close out his senior season.

During the State meet, Aiden sat in second place until his third attempt. A powerful throw secured him the gold medal and broke his own school record.

Aiden is a passionate and driven role model for young athletes. His dedication and perseverance reflect the spirit of Poth and the strength of south Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Aiden and can't wait to see what he accomplishes next.

OBSERVING WORLD PANCREATIC CANCER DAY

(Ms. SEWELL of Alabama was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in observance of today, November 20, as World Pancreatic Cancer Day.

It is a time to shine light on the devastating impact of this disease and dedicate ourselves to improving prevention, early detection, and treatment.

Pancreatic cancer is the third leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States and is on track to becoming the second by 2030. Over 67,000 Americans are diagnosed each year with pancreatic cancer.

Like so many Americans, I know all too well the terrible impact of this disease. In 2021, I lost my dear mother, Nancy Gardner Sewell, to pancreatic cancer.

By the time we caught it, the cancer had already spread. She passed away just 8 weeks after her diagnosis. In an effort to turn my pain into purpose, I have committed myself to doing everything I can to prevent other families from enduring such a painful loss.

Along with my friend Congressman JODEY ARRINGTON, I am proud to be leading H.R. 842. In the 118th Congress, Congressman ARRINGTON introduced our bill and surprised me by renaming it after my mother, the Nancy Gardner Sewell Medicare Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Act.

Our bill would create a pathway for Medicare to cover multiple cancer early detection tests. Medicare will cover that by making sure that once it is approved by the FDA, it immediately becomes available to Medicare patients. This is so important because the promise of screening for more than 40 cancers lies with a simple blood test.

If passed, it will give our seniors their best shot at catching cancer early

and treating it before it spreads. Just 2 months ago, our bill passed unanimously out of the House Ways and Means Committee. It enjoys overwhelmingly bipartisan support with 332 House cosponsors and 67 Senate cosponsors.

Later today, I look forward to convening lawmakers, researchers, advocates, and families for a roundtable on the latest developments in prevention, early detection, and treatment. I thank the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, the American Cancer Society, and all of the more than 500 stakeholders for all of their efforts. I am so grateful for the tireless work of our cancer advocates. Without them, this bill would not enjoy such broad bipartisan support.

As we wear purple today in honor of World Pancreatic Cancer Day, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 842, the Nancy Gardner Sewell Multi-Cancer Early Detection Act.

Mr. Speaker, let's get this bill across the finish line and pave the way for the world without pancreatic cancer.

NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH DAY

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize today as National Rural Health Day.

As the daughter of Alabama's rural Black Belt, I know firsthand the challenges that our rural communities face when it comes to accessing quality, affordable healthcare.

For too many patients in rural America, getting seen by a doctor requires driving miles to the nearest hospital or health center. Broken payment systems and workforce challenges have put an enormous strain on our healthcare system.

In Congress, I am proud to be leading legislation that will tackle these challenges. Our Graduate Medical Education bill will add thousands of residency slots, creating a pipeline of qualified health professionals to serve patients in rural America.

Our Save America's Rural Hospitals Act takes important steps to ensure that rural hospitals are fairly reimbursed for their services. The Home Health Stabilization Act will allow more seniors to receive the care that they need in the comfort of their own homes.

I am also working hard to expand access to telehealth services, mental health, and substance use programs, and support our rural ambulance providers. It is so important that our rural ambulance providers know the importance that they have in rural America.

Mr. Speaker, when it comes to healthcare, our rural communities are on life support. Republicans' so-called big, beautiful bill makes the largest cut to healthcare in American history. Despite the dysfunction in Washington, we in Alabama are fortunate to have amazing partners standing in the gap.

Just last month, I was thrilled to attend the groundbreaking of the Alabama School of Healthcare Sciences in Demopolis, Alabama. This new state-

supported residential high school is located in the heart of Alabama's Black Belt, where it will cultivate the next generation of healthcare professionals.

I believe that access to quality, affordable healthcare should be a right for all Americans and not just for the few. As we observe National Rural Health Day, let us recommit ourselves to ensuring that every American, regardless of their ZIP Code, gets the care that they need and that they deserve.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JUAN FERNANDEZ

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

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Juan Fernandez, a decorated marine, retired NYPD detective, and 9/11 first responder who passed away after a courageous battle with 9/11-induced pancreatic cancer.

As a marine, he proudly served our Nation with honor and discipline. Following his military service, Juan continued his commitment to protecting his community by serving as a detective in the New York Police Department where he was known for his courage and professionalism.

On September 11, 2001, Juan was among the many brave first responders who answered the call in one of our Nation's darkest hours. His courage and selflessness during and after that tragic day exemplified true strength and the resilience of the American spirit.

Juan's passing is a tremendous loss to his family, his friends, and those who served alongside him.

My thoughts are with his wife, Lily, and his daughters, Sydney, Samantha, and Jessica, during this difficult time. May his memory be a blessing to all who knew him and to our country.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF FRANCIS "FRANK" DUFFY

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Francis "Frank" Duffy, a devoted husband, father, and pillar of his community, who passed away on November 4 at the age of 102.

Frank was a decorated World War II veteran, earning both the Silver Star and the Purple Heart for his valor while serving on Iwo Jima. He concluded his military career at the rank of corporal.

Upon returning home from war, Frank embarked on a career with the United States Postal Service, retiring in 1978 as a foreman for transportation.

Frank was an active member of Pearl River VFW Post 7370, John H. Secor American Legion Post, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Irish Cultural Center, and St. Margaret's Church, and he was a past member of the Knights of Columbus.

A proud father of 5, loving grandfather of 10, and great-grandfather of

11, Frank exemplified the values of steadfast wisdom and enriched the lives of all he touched within the Pearl River community and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, may God bless the memory of Frank Duffy.

HONORING JUSTICE JOHN SWEENEY, JR.

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of the Honorable John Sweeney, Jr., a true steward of justice, integrity, and service in Putnam County and across New York State.

Justice Sweeney dedicated his life to the law and to the people it serves. From his early days as administrative assistant district attorney in Putnam County to his distinguished tenure on the New York State Supreme Court and Appellate Division, First Department, where he made history as the highest ranking judge ever to hail from Putnam County, John embodied fairness, humility, and an unwavering commitment to justice.

John was a man of quiet grace and deep intellect, a mentor to many, and a true gentleman in every sense of the word.

Beyond the courtroom, he gave selflessly to his community, from supporting veterans and first responders to volunteering at local fairs and serving with the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick.

On a personal level, he was extremely gracious and supportive of me, and I will never forget it.

Mr. Speaker, to his beloved wife, Alana, his children, and all who knew and loved him, our community shares in your loss and celebrates a life so well lived.

HONORING VINCENT ALTIERI

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Vincent Altieri, a dedicated community leader and longtime public servant.

Before joining Rockland County, Vince worked with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, advocating for environmental policy. He also served as a judge in the village of Spring Valley, where he will be remembered for his fairness, integrity, and respect for the rule of law.

Vince went on to dedicate more than 18 years of service to Rockland County, serving in the county executive's office as the intergovernmental relations director and later going on to serve as the executive director of the Rockland County Drainage Agency, showcasing his true commitment to improving the lives of his communities.

Vince's passing is a tremendous loss to Rockland County, and my thoughts are with his family and friends. His integrity, leadership, and passion for public service will be deeply missed.

HONORING DONNA BREEN CLARKE

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Donna Breen Clarke, who passed away peacefully on October 25, surrounded by her beloved family.

A proud graduate of Marymount Academy and Marymount College in Tarrytown, New York, Donna dedicated her life to the education and enrichment of the young minds of our community.

Donna started her career at Marymount International School in Surrey, England, before returning home to teach first graders in Mount Kisco following her marriage to her beloved husband, Joseph Clarke, in the summer of 1962.

Donna went on to serve as a preschool teacher and then director of the Naurauschaun Cooperative Nursery School in Pearl River, where she educated thousands of students, including me. Whether through educating the next generation or through her active involvement in St. Aedan's Church, Donna was deeply committed to her community.

A proud mother of three and loving grandmother of seven, Donna lived a life defined by compassion.

Mr. Speaker, may God bless the memory of Donna Breen Clarke and her husband, Joe, and may God continue to comfort her family.

HONORING JAMES M. BERNHARD, JR.

(Mr. CARTER of Louisiana was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, James M. Bernhard, Jr., was a legend in Louisiana. The headlines called him an icon, a titan, a giant of a man. Those who knew him understood why. He was a builder, a problem solver, and, at his core, a man of faith.

Jim was a proud LSU Tiger, graduating in construction management. He loved to tell the story of realizing at the last minute that he was 3 hours short of the credits he needed to graduate. Facing that problem, he decided to test out of a bowling class by scoring a 200, despite barely ever bowling before. In true Jim fashion, with determination and a high tolerance for risk, he figured out how to make it work and to graduate.

After LSU, he went to work for the family business, where every new employee had to start by installing toilets and air-conditioners. As the family's first college graduate and someone who had already done that work since high school, the rule didn't sit right with him. He turned down the offer to join and joined Southeast Fabricators as their first salesman.

On his first day, he picked up the Yellow Pages and got to work. He quickly discovered the company's prices were far too high to compete in south Louisiana. With no formal authority, he restructured the company's operations. By age 26, he was a corporate vice president and member of the board.

In 1986, he faced another challenge. Health insurance premiums were raised on workers, including two employees