Dennis began serving as pastor. His tenure, now spanning multiple decades, has given the congregation continuity in spiritual leadership as it entered a new century of ministry. Under his leadership, Bright Star has continued to emphasize worship, Bible study, prayer, Christian fellowship, outreach, and involvement in the community, building on the work of previous generations while focusing on the spiritual development of its members and the needs of the people it is called to serve.

Today, Bright Star Baptist Church remains committed to worship, Bible study, prayer, fellowship, evangelism, outreach, and service, and continues to seek opportunities to make a positive difference in the lives of individuals and families throughout Shreveport. As new generations become part of the congregation, they inherit a legacy of faith, sacrifice, perseverance, and service, and the responsibility of carrying that mission forward through Christian education, the development of future leaders, and continued outreach.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Bright Star Baptist Church and its congregation for more than a century of faith and service to the people of Shreveport. Guided by its mission of loving God, loving one another, and loving those who are lost, may Bright Star continue to stand as a beacon of faith, hope, fellowship, and service for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING JAMES GREGORY REDDEN, U.S. MARINE CORPS, WITH A CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor James Gregory Redden of Taylor, Texas, by presenting him with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. His devotion to our Nation through his military service and his continued commitment to his community service reflect the pinnacle of American exceptionalism.

Greg Redden enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in October 1984 and reported for basic training in San Diego with Platoon 1105 in 1985. Following continued training at El Toro USMC Air Station and Tustin MCAS, Greg was assigned to Marine Aircraft Group 24 at the Marine Corps Air Station in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, where he worked with VMFA 235 and HMH 364 and received his Collateral Duty Inspector certification. During his time in K–Bay, he had two temporary deployments to 29 Palms Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, where he was the lead for the night shift ground support for aircraft repairs. He also had one temporary deployment to Top Gun, where he provided ground support for the flightline.

Greg was then assigned to the Marine Corps Air Station Futenma in Okinawa from January to August 1988. Following this, he returned to Hawaii until November 1989, when he received the highest security clearance by the Marine Corps and was reassigned to Quantico, Virginia, and was assigned to Marine One. He traveled with President George H.W. Bush on numerous deployments as part of the maintenance support team for the President's helicopters. While in Quantico, he was also on the Osprey test team and was the lead for maintenance of the group support equipment.

Having been honorably discharged from the USMC in April 1992, Greg turned to public service, working with the City of Austin from 1997 to 2016. Greg moved to Taylor, Texas, in August 2014, where his community involvement began to soar. He has been an active member of the American Legion Post since 2018, serving as Service Officer since 2023. When the American Legion needed a temporary post due to renovations, Greg volunteered his home.

Greg joined the Rotary Club of Taylor in April 2022 and served as its president in 2024–2025. He still helps lead the club, volunteering his time at the Shepherd's Heart food pantry, working with DAP grants, serving on the scholarship review team, and organizing the annual golf tournament and several other fundraising events.

He has been a member of the Taylor Rodeo Association since 2023, serving in a variety of organizational and fundraising roles. He has also been a member of the Taylor Chamber of Commerce since 2019, where he has served as an honorary ambassador and vice chair of the Chamber golf tournament. He has now served on the Taylor City Council since he took his oath of office in May 2025.

Greg is a co-owner of Veteran Storage LLC in Taylor, and he is a devout member of the Fellowship Church, where he is a greeter on Sunday mornings.

It is with great honor and respect that I present United States Marine Corps E4 James Gregory Redden with a Congressional Veteran Commendation from the 17th Congressional District of Texas. His love of his God and his country serve as an inspiration to us all.

HONORING ALVIN W. ROBERTS

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alvin W. Roberts, a Vietnam Combat Veteran. I include in the RECORD the following proclamation:

Whereas, Mr. Alvin W. Roberts has dedicated over 45 years of his life to serving veterans, disabled, elderly, and children, championing and spearheading numerous commendable and notable projects for the Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., locally, statewide, and nationally; and

Whereas, Mr. Alvin W. Roberts, as a Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America, he has consistently gone above and beyond in recruiting and retaining members, implementing innovative systems to enhance youth activities, community engagement, and Americanism programs; and

Whereas, Mr. Roberts has held numerous positions within Vietnam Veterans of America. Inc., including Vice President of Chapter 1125, showcasing his commitment to the organization's goals and objectives; and

Whereas, Mr, Roberts played a pivotal role in the establishment and success of the INVEST (Innovate and Navigate Veterans' Employment Via Support and Training) program, connecting veterans with disabilities to training programs, support services, and jobs, setting an exemplary standard for community service; and

Whereas, Mr. Roberts is a role model and mentor within the Miami-Dade County School System and has instilled Values of Citizenship in the minds of many of our young people with positive outcomes. Mr. Roberts' affiliation with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Miami and the 5,000 Role Models of Excellence Programs has benefitted inner-city and at-risk youth within the Tri-County Communities, of Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach; and

Whereas, he is a former employee, serving more than 35 years, in the Miami VA Healthcare System Office of Administration as a Lead Medical Support Assistant. During his tenure as a Federal Employee of the Miami VA, he was the recipient of South Florida Federal Executive Board Federal Employee of the Year in the Category of Administration and again, he was the overall Federal Employee of the Year Recipient In Service To The Community; and

Whereas, Mr. Roberts has received numerous local, State, and National awards for his outstanding service to the Miami-Dade County community. He has received awards from the esteemed VVA FSC Member of the Year and VVA National Member of the Year, awarded under the Past Presidency of Jerry Klein. Notably, he received a Proclamation in 2019 from State Legislator James Bush, underscoring the widespread recognition of his impactful contributions. Vice President Roberts has been a recipient of the Spirit of ADA, acknowledging his instrumental role in the success of the INVEST program; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Frederica S. Wilson, a Member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, recognize Alvin W. Roberts for his outstanding service, leadership, and dedication to veterans, the community, and the mission of Vietnam Veterans of America. Inc.

HONORING MADELEINE LERNER'S SERVICE AS DISTRICT DIRECTOR

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Madeleine Lerner for five years of service with my office, most recently as my District Director.

Madeleine began her work with my office as a Community Liaison, supporting relationship building and stakeholder engagement efforts. She was later promoted to Senior Community Liaison, Director of Community Engagement, Deputy District Director and ultimately, District Director.

During her time as District Director, Madeleine strengthened our casework operation, leading to over $11 million returned to constituents. She also steered the district team through the uncertainty of Operation Metro Surge and worked diligently to support Minnesotans facing the unimaginable. I'll always be grateful for the work Madeleine did in traveling with me to El Paso to support a constituent and work for their release from ICE detention.

Madeleine leads with empathy and I know this trait will serve her well in the future. I've always appreciated Madeleine's dedication to

the work and the relationships she was able to build in the community. I've valued Madeleine's advice and counsel over the years and wish her the best in her future.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF STAFFORD HIGH SCHOOL

HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 100th anniversary of Stafford High School in Stafford County, Virginia, and to honor a century of academic excellence, school spirit, and unwavering commitment to educating generations of young Virginians.

Since opening its doors in 1926, Stafford High School has been more than an institution of learning. It has been a cornerstone of the Stafford community, where lifelong friendships are forged, dreams take shape, and young people discover their potential. Through its commitment to education, leadership, and service, the school has helped prepare generations of students to pursue their ambitions and make meaningful contributions to their communities.

From its classrooms to athletic fields, and its performing arts programs and extracurricular activities, Stafford High School has cultivated a proud tradition of achievement and opportunity. Its success reflects the dedication of countless educators, administrators, staff, and families who have invested their time, talents, and hearts into the success of every student.

In recognition of this anniversary, Stafford High School teachers, with generous support from the Stafford Education Foundation, created a commemorative mural celebrating the school's centennial. This lasting tribute beautifully reflects the pride, dedication, and community spirit that have defined Stafford High School for generations.

As we celebrate this extraordinary achievement, we must also look toward the future. As leaders, our responsibility is to ensure that every student who walks through Stafford High School's doors has the opportunity, resources, and encouragement to pursue their dreams and build a brighter future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Stafford High School on its centennial anniversary and extending our heartfelt appreciation to the educators, administrators, families, and alumni who have sustained its remarkable legacy. May the next 100 years bring continued excellence, opportunity, and enduring Tribe pride.

HONORING MOUNT CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mount Calvary Baptist Church of Mansfield, Louisiana, a valued congregation and community institution located at 329 Porter Street. Under the leadership of Pastor Williams and the dedicated service of its members, Mount Calvary Baptist Church continues to provide worship, fellowship, and ministry to the people of Mansfield and DeSoto Parish.

The historical roots of the original Mount Calvary Baptist Church are connected to the early-twentieth-century movement to establish African American Baptist congregations in communities where such spaces were needed. Across generations, the church has developed as a multigenerational and multicultural beacon, welcoming people from many walks of life and seeking to strengthen the bonds of faith and community.

The name ''Mount Calvary'' honors Calvary, or Golgotha, the biblical hill outside Jerusalem where Jesus Christ was crucified. This name reflects the church's emphasis on the sacrifice, salvation, grace, and redemption that form the foundation of its Christian faith.

Mount Calvary Baptist Church has also demonstrated faithful stewardship through its commitment to improving its facilities. During a period of leadership transition, including major improvements advanced under Pastor Williams, the congregation undertook Phase I renovations focused on the lobby and main sanctuary. These efforts included hand-cleaning the historic interior brick walls, updating the structural paint, and installing a new pulpit.

The congregation completed the $87,000 Phase I renovation project entirely debt-free, reflecting careful planning, shared commitment, and responsible financial stewardship. This accomplishment stands as a testament to the generosity and dedication of Mount Calvary Baptist Church's members and supporters.

Mount Calvary Baptist Church is grounded in fundamental, Bible-based Baptist doctrines. The church affirms one true and living God, eternally existing in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit and teaches that salvation is the free gift of divine grace received through faith in Jesus Christ, apart from human works.

The church recognizes the Old and New Testaments as the inspired and infallible Word of God and observes the two ordinances of the Christian faith: believers' baptism by full immersion and the Lord's Supper. It also affirms the local church as an autonomous body of baptized believers called to carry out the Great Commission.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pastor Williams and the faithful congregation of Mount Calvary Baptist Church for their enduring commitment to worship, stewardship, ministry, and community fellowship. May Mount Calvary Baptist Church continue to serve as a place of faith, welcome, and hope for the people of Mansfield and for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING GARY DEAN ROEMMICK, WITH A CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to present Gary Dean Roemmick of China Spring, Texas, with a 2026 Congressional Veteran Commendation. Gary's honorable military service, decades of professional leadership, and continued commitment to serving his community and fellow veterans reflect the hard work, generosity, and dedication that exemplify the very best of our East Texas values.

Gary entered the United States Navy in December 1965 and served through 1971, attaining the rank of Aviation Mechanic, ADR3, E–4. Gary's duty stations included San Diego, California; Naval Air Station Millington, Tennessee; and Naval Air Station Whiting Field in Milton, Florida. As a Plane Captain with the VT–2 Training Squadron, Gary was responsible for pre-flight and post-flight inspections and servicing of T–28 Trojan aircraft. Gary oversaw thousands of takeoffs and landings and coordinated necessary followup maintenance. Gary's responsibilities also included assisting with the recovery of several flight training accidents in which officers in training were lost. Gary received an honorable discharge in 1967 and continued serving in the Inactive Reserve until 1971 and his military service was recognized with the National Defense Service Medal and Good Conduct Medal.

Following his military service, Gary began a long and successful career in the private sector. Gary worked for Delta Airlines at Dallas Love Field as a Ramp Service Agent before joining Payless Cashway, Inc. in 1972. Beginning in floor sales, Gary advanced into management and ultimately served as a Store Manager for many years. In 1984, Gary transferred to Waco, where he continued as a Payless Cashways Store Manager until 2001. Gary's management skills and dedication were recognized through twelve Gold and Silver Achievement Awards during his career with the company. Gary later served as Store Manager for Waco Insulation Supply Company from 2001 to 2008.

Gary's commitment to service became especially evident after he and his wife, Patricia, established roots in the China Spring community. Gary has been actively involved with the China Spring Lions Club, participating in fundraisers, the Fall Festival, school scholarship programs, and other community service projects. Gary has also served with the China Spring Youth Association as a board member, equipment manager, and youth athletics coach, as well as supporting the China Spring Athletic Booster Club and Future Farmers of America Boosters, where he helped students with animals and livestock shows.

Since 2023, Gary has continued his service to others through his volunteer work with the Waco Veterans One-Stop, sponsored by the Heart of Texas Behavioral Health Network. Gary has become a dependable source of assistance for local veterans, helping prepare, serve, and clean up after weekly and special occasion meals. Gary has delivered meals to veterans at Ridgecrest Retirement and Assisted Living and has provided transportation for veterans traveling to and from the Veterans One-Stop to meet with counselors and Veteran Service Officers. Gary also coordinates free haircuts for veterans and, when needed, has volunteered to mow the yards of veterans who require assistance.

Gary's service extends to special events and activities designed to strengthen the veteran community. Gary has helped organize and support Thanksgiving, Christmas, Veterans Day, and Memorial Day meals at the