

their environmental stewardship and generational leadership, the women who volunteered their time and efforts to the Save the Dunes organization are worthy of the highest praise.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating Women's History Month and recognizing the women of Save the Dunes, who continue to shape a more sustainable future for Northwest Indiana and our Nation.

COMMEMORATING MARCH AS
YOUTH ART MONTH IN KANSAS

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate March as Youth Art Month in Kansas. Youth Art Month exists to honor our student artists and recognize the value of art education, especially for our children.

In 1961, the Art & Creative Materials Institute created Children's Art Month as an event to emphasize the value of visual art education. In 1969, the celebration expanded to include secondary school students, and Children's Art Month officially became known as Youth Art Month. Youth Art Month is now celebrated across the Nation with art contests, exhibits, and special activities.

Annually in Kansas, every art teacher in the state is eligible to submit one student's artwork from their school to be showcased in the Kansas Youth Art Month exhibit at the Topeka and Shawnee County Library. Nationwide, a student from each state designs a Youth Art Month flag to represent their state at the National Art Education Association's Convention. This year's celebration to recognize these artists is set for March 28, 2026. This annual celebration is full of fun art activities, art exhibits, and certificates and prizes.

Youth Art Month exists to increase community understanding, interest, and participation in art and art education. Year round, Kansas art teachers strive to expand art programs in schools and provide opportunities for more students to explore their artistic creativity. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to these educators, and to the Kansas Art Education Association for organizing Kansas' Youth Art Month so that we can formally celebrate these educators and their students.

RECOGNIZING BRANDON MOWATT

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary member of our community, Brandon Mowatt, a dedicated volunteer with Brooksville Main Street whose tireless efforts have helped fuel the continued revitalization of our historic downtown. When anyone thinks of the engine that keeps Brooksville Main Street running, they think of Brandon. Whether representing his business,

3 Brothers Detailing, or serving simply as a committed citizen in work boots and ready to lend a hand, Brandon is the definition of a powerhouse volunteer. The success of large-scale community events depends on the unseen work—the grit and sweat poured in before the first guest arrives and long after the last one leaves. Brandon is at the very heart of that effort. He is consistently the first to arrive for setup and the last to leave after breakdown. From coordinating the logistical complexities of vendor load-in to tackling the less glamorous but essential tasks like cleanup and trash removal, Brandon approaches every responsibility with an enthusiasm that is truly contagious.

What sets Brandon apart is not only his willingness to work, but his ability to lead and innovate. He is a strategic thinker who is always several steps ahead. He does not simply move a tent—he considers how its placement can improve flow, enhance vendor visibility, and create a better experience for attendees. He holds himself and those around him to a high standard, ensuring that every Brooksville Main Street event is executed with excellence. His energy transforms long, physically demanding days into meaningful team-building experiences for fellow volunteers. Perhaps the most powerful testament to Brandon's character occurred earlier this year. In January 2026, Brandon and his family endured a devastating personal loss. In the midst of such profound grief, no one would have expected him to show up—in fact, many would have urged him to take time away. Yet his dedication to Brooksville and its community runs so deep that he chose to volunteer during the Tangerine Festival. In one of the most difficult seasons of his life, he still showed up for others, offering strength and reliability when it would have been entirely understandable to step back.

Brandon Mowatt does not simply volunteer; he invests his heart and soul into the betterment of Brooksville. His impact is measured not only in the countless hours he gives, but in the seamless execution of community events and the uplifted spirits of those who serve alongside him. He is a rare find, a selfless leader, and truly deserving of this recognition. Brandon Mowatt embodies the spirit of a Hero Among Us. Through his generosity, quiet leadership, and unwavering commitment to service, he has made a meaningful and lasting difference in our community.

It is clear that Mr. Brandon Mowatt has made an extraordinary and deeply positive impact on countless lives. I am profoundly grateful for his dedication and service and proud to recognize him as a 2026 Hero Among Us for Florida's 12th Congressional District.

HONORING BUSY SIGNAL IN
CELEBRATION OF REGGAE MONTH

HON. SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Busy Signal in celebration of Reggae Month. I include in the RECORD the following proclamation:

Whereas, reggae and dancehall music serve as powerful cultural expressions of Ja-

maica's history, resilience, and creativity, influencing communities around the world and celebrated annually during Reggae Month; and

Whereas, Busy Signal, born Reanno Devon Gordon in Saint Ann Parish, Jamaica, has emerged as one of the leading voices of contemporary dancehall, shaping the sound and global reach of Jamaican music for more than two decades; and

Whereas, since his breakout in the early 2000s with hits such as "Step Out," "Nah Go Jail Again," "Tic Toc," and "Unknown Number," Busy Signal has consistently demonstrated artistic versatility, lyrical authenticity, and an unwavering commitment to representing the culture and energy of Jamaica; and

Whereas, through successful studio albums including Step Out, Loaded, Reggae Music Again, and Parts of the Puzzle, Busy Signal has bridged traditional reggae foundations with modern dancehall innovation, earning international acclaim and chart success, including placement on the Billboard Reggae Albums chart; and

Whereas, his collaborations with global artists and producers have expanded the international influence of reggae and dancehall, reinforcing Jamaica's enduring role as a cultural powerhouse in music and entertainment; and

Whereas, Busy Signal's journey reflects resilience, growth, and artistic evolution, inspiring fans worldwide while continuing to elevate Caribbean music on the global stage; and therefore, be it

Resolved, that we, Florida's 20th Congressional District, proudly honor Busy Signal in celebration of Reggae Month, recognizing his significant contributions to reggae and dancehall music, cultural expression, and the global advancement of Jamaican artistry.

HONORING FIREFLY AEROSPACE
ON THE ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE BLUE GHOST
LUNAR LANDING

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable achievement by one of the finest companies in the great state of Texas, Firefly Aerospace of Cedar Park, on the one-year anniversary of their historic Blue Ghost Mission 1 lunar landing.

One year ago, on March 2, 2025, Firefly Aerospace made history when their Blue Ghost lunar lander touched down in Mare Crisium on the near side of the Moon. With that landing, Firefly became the first commercial company to achieve a fully successful soft landing on the Moon—a milestone in the modern era of American space exploration.

This was not merely a corporate achievement; it was an American achievement. Blue Ghost launched on January 15, 2025, from NASA's Kennedy Space Center, carrying ten scientific instruments for NASA's Commercial Lunar Payload Services program and the Artemis campaign to return humans to the Moon. Blue Ghost operates from Firefly's Mission Control Center in Cedar Park, Texas, in the heart of the 31st Congressional District, which I am proud to serve.

Firefly's success stands as a testament to American ingenuity and private enterprise. Where NASA's Apollo 17 last touched the

Moon in 1972, Firefly's team has opened a new chapter of commercial lunar access that will strengthen our national security and scientific leadership. As a member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies, I am proud to support the federal investments that helped make this success possible.

I commend the entire Firefly team, from the engineers at their Cedar Park headquarters to the technicians at the Texas Rocket Ranch in Briggs and their more than 500-person workforce. The 31st District of Texas is home to warriors, farmers, and now, Moon landers. I congratulate Firefly Aerospace on one year since they reached the Moon and showed the world what American commercial space can do.

RECOGNIZING CADET COLONEL
SLATER SHANNON FOR EARNING
THE GENERAL CARL A. SPAATZ
AWARD

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate and recognize Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Cadet Colonel Slater Shannon for earning the General Carl A. Spaatz Award.

Cadet Colonel Shannon is the 2,574th individual in history to receive the General Carl A. Spaatz award. Named after General Spaatz, the first Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force and first chairman of the CAP National Board, the award is the highest honor that a CAP cadet can receive. Qualifying individuals spend years in the cadet program and undergo physical training, academic preparation, and leadership development.

Cadet Colonel Shannon serves with the Jesse Jones Composite Squadron 304, based at Lancaster Airport, of the Pennsylvania Wing Civil Air Patrol. During his time with CAP, he served as Cadet Commander of Squadron 304, was Primary Representative to the Pennsylvania Wing Cadet Advisory Council and assisted in multiple emergency service missions. He currently serves as the Secretary for the Northeast Region Committee of CAP. Cadet Colonel Shannon is also an accomplished student both in his CAP service and his private life, having completed aerospace education programs provided through the military while sustaining a 4.07 GPA. His accomplishments have earned recognition not just from myself, but from President Donald J. Trump, who wrote to him a letter of recognition.

The General Carl A. Spaatz Award goes to an average of five cadets out of one thousand, and the accomplishments of Cadet Colonel Slater Shannon merit him this prestigious honor. I thank Cadet Colonel Shannon for his selfless service to this country and I congratulate him on receiving this prestigious recognition. I look forward to seeing what his bright future holds.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF LORRIE ANNE PARKER

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Lorrie Anne Parker of Lexington, Kentucky. She passed away on February 25, 2026.

Lorrie was born in Frankfort, Kentucky. She grew up worshipping with her family at Providence Church of Christ and attending Bible Camp in London, Kentucky. Lorrie was blessed with a compassionate heart and desire to serve others.

Lorrie grew very passionate about defending and protecting the unborn. She worked over the years with groups who shared her passion for Life. For twenty-eight years, she served on the Board of Right to Life of Central Kentucky, serving two terms as Chapter President. She also served as Vice President of Kentucky Right to Life. Lorrie helped establish the Kentucky Memorial for the Unborn in the historic Frankfort Cemetery, which overlooks the state Capitol.

Lorrie became active in campaigns of candidates who shared her beliefs. She served in the office of Congressman Ernie Fletcher. When Fletcher was elected Governor of Kentucky, she worked in his administration. She later served as Office Manager for Governor Matt Bevin. She was highly respected by all who worked with her.

Lorrie is survived by her husband of twenty-five years, Colonel (Ret.) James "Steve" Parker.

Through her work and her passions, Lorrie touched countless lives. Her life was guided by her deep faith in her Lord Jesus. She was truly a Godly woman who lived a consequential life. I am honored to call her my friend and to lift up her life before the House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING DR. JAMES R.
DOWNING

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the pioneering children's cancer researcher Dr. James R. Downing, the President and CEO of the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, who is stepping down from twelve years in that role to return to the laboratory. As CEO, he has led a \$12.9 billion commitment to accelerate research and treatments of catastrophic pediatric diseases. His own laboratory research has focused on the genetic basis of cancers. As CEO, he was instrumental in creating the Pediatric Cancer Genome Project, a genetic sequencing effort to discover why childhood cancers arise, spread and resist treatment.

As the leader of St. Jude, he has been a driving force behind improving survival rates of cancer and other catastrophic diseases internationally by creating a global alliance of over 400 health care institutions assuring children around the world have access to the best and

most-advanced therapies and care. Overseeing the management of the St. Jude, Dr. Downing has been recognized for its outstanding workplace culture and for being a forward-thinking workplace for diversity and for women. Dr. Downing has received numerous honors, including election to the National Academy of Medicine and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, as well as receiving the Memorial Sloan Kettering Prize, the E. Donnell Thomas Lecture and Prize from the American Society of Hematology, and the Pediatric Oncology Award from the American Society of Clinical Oncology. Dr. Downing received his undergraduate and medical degrees from the University of Michigan. He joined St. Jude in 1986 after training in anatomic pathology at Washington University in St. Louis and a fellowship in hematopathology at the University of Florida at Gainesville. In 2016, he was named to the Blue Ribbon Panel of then-Vice President Joe Biden's National Cancer Moonshot Initiative. In 2013, he was a finalist for Time magazine's list of the World's Most Influential People. He is a co-author on numerous medical journal articles on childhood cancers and treatment.

While we await the naming of his successor as CEO this summer, I wish Dr. Downing well as he returns to the laboratory at St. Jude and hope that he continues to make significant progress in finding preventions, treatments, and cures for cancer, which will benefit millions of people around the world.

RECOGNIZING PASTOR FREDDIE
HINSON, JR.

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary contributions of a dedicated community leader in my district, Pastor Freddie Hinson, Jr. Pastor Hinson has been a devoted member, volunteer, and Spiritual Advisor to the YMCA Togetherhood Program, where his guidance and leadership have made a transformative impact in one of our community's most underserved areas.

Pastor Hinson's service goes far beyond ceremonial duties. He actively mentors leaders, encourages volunteers, and helps shape initiatives that address food insecurity, health disparities, neighborhood revitalization, and family empowerment. Through prayer, strategic insight, and hands-on participation, he brings both spiritual grounding and practical leadership to every effort, ensuring that the YMCA Togetherhood Program's initiatives are not only meaningful but sustainable. A native of Clearwater, Florida, Pastor Hinson accepted his call to public ministry while serving in the U.S. Army at SHAPE, Belgium, where he served as a Soldier, Minister, and Musician. Upon returning home, he was licensed as a minister and faithfully served in leadership roles for decades, including as Senior Pastor of Union Baptist Church in Port Richey and currently as Senior Pastor of New Hope Baptist Church of Hudson, a position he has held for 28 years. Beyond his ministry, Pastor Hinson has strengthened partnerships between faith communities, civic leaders, and grassroots organizations. He served as Director of the City of Clearwater's Neighborhood