

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. J. LUIS CORREA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2026*

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, on March 17, 2026, I was necessarily absent and missed the following votes on the House Floor. Had I been present, I would have voted accordingly below: YES on Roll Call No. 88, H.R. 4294, Mitigation Action and Watermen Support Act of 2026; YES on Roll Call No. 89, S. 3971, Small Business Innovation and Economic Security Act; NO on Roll Call No. 90, Motion on Ordering the Previous Question; and NO on Roll Call No. 91, H. Res. 1115, Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1958, Deporting Fraudsters Act of 2026; H.R. 556, Protecting Access for Hunters and Anglers Act; and H.R. 4638, Federal Working Animal Protection Act.

## RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT TIM GILL

**HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2026*

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Lieutenant Tim Gill for his distinguished 29-year career in law enforcement and his dedicated service to our North Texas community.

Lieutenant Gill began his career with the Grapevine Police Department on February 24, 1997, and was certified as a Texas Peace Officer on July 7, 2004. Over nearly three decades, he has demonstrated unwavering commitment, leadership, and professionalism in every role he has held. Lieutenant Gill holds a master's degree from Southern Methodist University and a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Bluefield College. He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy, the Senior Management Institute for Police, and the Police Executive Research Forum, reflecting his continued commitment to professional development and excellence in law enforcement.

Throughout his career, Lieutenant Gill has served in a wide range of impactful roles, including Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, Instructor, and Explorer Advisor. He made significant contributions to community engagement and public safety through his work as a Crime Prevention Officer, Crime Prevention Inspector, and Homeowner's Insurance Inspector. He also served in both the Patrol and Criminal Investigation Divisions before advancing to Lieutenant in Patrol and later serving as the Office of Professional Standards Lieutenant. In addition, Lieutenant Gill played a critical role as the Accreditation Manager for the Grapevine Police Department's first accreditation through the Law Enforcement Accreditation Program, helping to advance the department's professional standards and accountability.

Lieutenant Gill's career exemplifies integrity, leadership, and dedication to service. His contributions have left a lasting impact on the Grapevine Police Department and the community he has faithfully served. As he moves into this next chapter, I offer my best wishes for his well-earned retirement.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2026*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, as a result of travel disruptions stemming from the recent major storm system, I was unable to attend the Chamber in person for votes on March 17, 2026. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 88; YEA on Roll Call No. 89; NAY on Roll Call No. 90; and NAY on Roll Call No. 91.

## RECOGNIZING MRS. LILLIE MAE BYNUM'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. CHRIS PAPPAS**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2026*

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mrs. Lillie Mae Bynum, who is celebrating her 100th birthday on April 7, 2026. Lillie moved to Goffstown, New Hampshire, in 1961, and ever since has been an active and beloved member of her community.

Lillie was born in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1926 to Lessie and Edmond Grant. From a young age, she demonstrated a sharp mind, a strong work ethic, and a passion for serving others. She was the valedictorian of her graduating class at A.H. Parker High School in Birmingham and continued her education at the Grady School of Nursing in Atlanta, Georgia, where she graduated in 1944.

Lillie and her husband, E.B. Bynum, moved to Goffstown while he served our country in the United States Air Force. They only intended to stay for two years, but they quickly established themselves as integral members of the community. Before passing away in 1996, E.B. proudly served as a town selectman, budget committee member, charter commission member, and historic district commissioner, leaving an indelible mark on the Goffstown community. All the while, Lillie worked tirelessly as a dedicated and respected nurse, earning the praise and gratitude of countless individuals who have crossed her path.

Away from her lifesaving work, Lillie is devoted to her family and faith. Together, she and E.B. raised seven children. She is also the devoted grandmother of ten and is proud to have three great-grandchildren as well. Her family have described her mother, Lessie, as her best friend, and she also holds a deep love and respect for her father and her older brother, Alex. After moving to New Hampshire in the 1960s, she converted from the Southern Baptist church to Catholicism, and ever since has remained a devout presence at St. Lawrence Roman Catholic Church in Goffstown.

Ten years ago, Lillie was featured in the NH Business Review in an article that celebrated her life and accomplishments in honor of her 90th birthday. As she celebrates her 100th birthday, Lillie offers a powerful example that our age alone does not define us. She still embodies an independent life and spirit and carries herself with the same grace, perseverance, and dignity that she has always exhibited. She continues to live on her own, is ac-

tive in town, and remains a faithful St. Lawrence Church parishioner.

In a time rife with bitter divisions across our country and the world, Lillie's love and devotion to her family, her faith, and her community are an inspiring model for how to bring people together. For her 100th birthday, it is my honor to recognize her on behalf of the people of Goffstown and New Hampshire's 1st Congressional District. We honor her for her achievements, thank her for her and her husband's service, and congratulate her as she celebrates this exciting milestone. I wish her a very happy birthday and all the best in the years to come.

## RECOGNIZING THE 2026 WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH HONOREES

**HON. SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2026*

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the outstanding achievements and enduring contributions of a remarkable group of women recognized at the City of Tamarac Commission Meeting at City Hall, which took place on Wednesday, March 11, 2026.

This annual celebration recognizes the leadership, dedication, and cultural impact of women whose work uplifts and strengthens communities across Tamarac and Broward County. It is a testament to the power of Women's leadership, civic engagement, and the unifying strength of community.

Following a review process, this year's honorees were selected for their significant contributions and leadership within their fields and communities. These distinguished women exemplify service, mentorship, and advocacy, setting a standard for excellence and inspiring others to give back.

I include in the RECORD the following 2026 Women's History Month Honorees:

Michelle Alexander—Pastor and Co-Founder of Daybreak Assembly Florida, empowering individuals and families through ministry.

Sharon Jacobs—President of the SLED Club, fostering engagement, leadership, and connection among seniors.

Lena Jones—President of Tamarac Lakes South Community Board, strengthening civic engagement and neighborhood unity.

Seema Lakhani—Executive Director of Administration at Parkway Memory Care, supporting seniors and families.

Dr. Sharetta Remikie—Chief Public Affairs Officer at Children's Services Council, advocating for children's programs.

These honorees represent the heart of Tamarac and Broward County. Their service, leadership, and dedication ensure that women's achievements and contributions remain visible, celebrated, and valued. Their work inspires current and future generations to embrace civic responsibility, cultural pride, and the pursuit of a more inclusive and equitable society.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and celebrating these remarkable women for their leadership, contributions, and commitment to their communities. Their work exemplifies the strength, resilience, and enduring legacy of women's leadership.

Their dedication and accomplishments not only enrich Tamarac and Broward County but also serve as a lasting example of the impact one can have through service, leadership, and a commitment to community. By honoring these women, we celebrate the enduring legacy of women's leadership and the vital role it plays in shaping a more vibrant, inclusive, and connected society.

RECOGNIZING ELANA MEYERS  
TAYLOR'S HOMETOWN CELEBRATION

**HON. LUCY MCBATH**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2026*

Mrs. MCBATH. Mr. Speaker, during Women's History Month, we recognize women who have written their own chapter and blazed a trail for women around the world. On Saturday, March 21, my constituents in Douglasville and Douglas County will welcome home our Olympic hero, Elana Meyers Taylor.

Going into the 2026 Winter Games, Elana was already the most decorated Black Winter Olympian in history, having previously won three silver and two bronze Olympic medals. At her fifth Olympic appearance at the Milano-Cortina 2026 Games, Elana's brilliant performance in the women's monobob event earned her very first Olympic gold medal, further cementing her status as a Team USA legend. I am thrilled that the only 2026 Winter Olympian from Georgia was able to achieve such a remarkable feat.

In the moments following her historic win, millions across the world were moved watching Elana embrace her two sons and sign "Mommy won" to each of them. Elana has said that she would not have been able to win gold without her children, and that she fought for this highest achievement because of them. On and off the track, she is an outstanding role model for parents of children with disabilities. It is fitting that she was recently given her own name sign by ASL instructor Nicole Mitchell—a tremendous honor which can only be bestowed by a deaf person.

The community is so proud of Elana's historic accomplishments, and we thank her for boldly leading the way for women everywhere. On behalf of Georgia's 6th Congressional District and the United States House of Representatives, I congratulate her on her well-deserved Olympic gold medal.

HONORING JULIE A. POOLE

**HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2026*

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Julie A. Poole as she retires after more than three decades of distinguished service to the federal government, including 25 years with the U.S. House of Representatives, Office of Inspector General.

Julie began her federal career in 1992 as an auditor at the National Science Foundation. She later served as an auditor with the Department of the Treasury, Office of Inspector

General from 1997 to 2000. In 2000, Julie joined the House OIG, where she would spend the next quarter century advancing oversight, accountability, and sound stewardship of public resources.

At the House OIG, Julie's expertise, professionalism, and commitment to excellence earned the respect of colleagues and stakeholders alike. Over the years, her leadership and skills led to her appointment as Assistant Director for Performance and Financial Audits and Investigations. In this role, she guided complex audit and investigative work, strengthened internal controls, and contributed significantly to the effectiveness and credibility of the Office of Inspector General.

Julie's legacy is defined not only by her measurable accomplishments, but also by her values of integrity, accountability, and quality, which she cultivated throughout her career. Her dedication to public service has left a lasting impact on the institution and her colleagues.

As Julie embarks on this new chapter, we extend our deepest gratitude and warmest wishes for a fulfilling retirement. Her career stands as a testament to the values that uphold the U.S. House of Representatives and the commitment to serve the American people.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JAMES R. BAIRD**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2026*

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in my family, I missed several votes the week of March 2, 2026. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 79, Previous question regarding H. Res. 1095; YEA on Roll Call No. 80, Passage on H. Res. 1095; YEA on Roll Call No. 81, Passage of S. 723; YEA on Roll Call No. 82, Passage of H.R. 6472; and YEA on Roll Call No. 83, Committee referral of H. Res. 1100.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND  
SERVICE OF DONALD MICHAEL  
WITTENBERG

**HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2026*

Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Donald Michael Wittenberg, a Philadelphia community leader and constituent of Pennsylvania's 2nd Congressional District who passed away on March 5th. Don's leadership in the Philadelphia community cannot be overstated, and I am incredibly grateful for his friendship over many years, as well as the contributions he has made to our city.

Don graduated from Olney High School in 1964 and Temple University in 1969 with bachelor's and master's degrees in education. He would go on to serve as an educator within the School District of Philadelphia for 42 years. He taught at Meade, McClure, Rowen, and Leeds Middle Schools, served as an Auxiliary Principal at Kenderton and Hanna Elementary Schools, and as the Principal of Pen-

nell and Franklin Elementary Schools. Don completed his career as an Educational Facilities Planner for the school district's central office.

Don's impact on the Philadelphia community, however, went beyond the classroom and the thousands of students he served. He has served as a member, Treasurer, and President of B'nai B'rith Educators Unit, an organization dedicated to supporting Jewish educators in Philadelphia. He was the Curator for the Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center for 25 years and was honored by the Columbus Forum as the first recipient of their Unity Award for promoting cultural awareness.

Honoring Don's life and service as an educator and community leader would not be complete without also paying tribute to him as a beloved husband to his wife, Bonnie, and the late Louellan, father to Steven and Jan, and grandfather to Lillian, Aidan, and Leo. I offer my deepest condolences to the Wittenberg family and their friends, and I will continue to hold them in my prayers.

Mr. Speaker, it is altogether fitting that the House recognizes Don for his exceptional life and thanks him for his leadership in the Philadelphia community and education system.

RECOGNIZING LAVON STENNIS-  
WILLIAMS DURING WOMEN'S  
HISTORY MONTH

**HON. DON BACON**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2026*

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize a true example of resiliency, generosity and commitment to serving others: LaVon Stennis-Williams from Omaha, Nebraska.

LaVon is a woman of many titles—attorney, author, entrepreneur, and mentor. But perhaps her most defining characteristic is her unwavering commitment to the idea that our past does not define our future, and that history, when preserved, can be a powerful tool for healing.

A graduate of Creighton University with both her Bachelor's and Juris Doctor degrees, LaVon has spent her life building bridges. In 2012, drawing from her own personal journey, she founded ReConnect, Inc. This non-profit has served over 500 individuals, helping those currently or formerly incarcerated navigate the difficult transition back into society. Through her "Success Prep" curriculum, she teaches a philosophy that our communities desperately need: the mindset of being "better, not bitter."

But LaVon's service to Omaha doesn't stop at professional development. She understands that to move forward, we must also look back. She transformed her private doll collection into The Doll Museum of African-American History. This museum, which is open to the public free of charge, houses a collection of over 3,000 historic dolls.

Far more than simple artifacts, these figures serve as a unique lens through which people can examine three centuries of Black history and culture. By meticulously curating this exhibit, Ms. Stennis-Williams offers our community—and particularly our youth—a tangible connection to the past.