

HONORING THE BICENTENNIAL OF  
THE TOWN OF RANDOLPH, NEW  
YORK

**HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 19, 2026*

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Town of Randolph in Cattaraugus County, New York, as it celebrates the 200th anniversary of its founding. Established on February 1, 1826, when the New York State Legislature divided the Town of Conewango, Randolph quickly grew from a small settlement of pioneering families into a strong and vibrant community in the Enchanted Mountains of Western New York. Early residents helped shape the town through hard work, civic participation, and a commitment to building roads, schools, and institutions that would serve future generations.

By 1830, Randolph had grown to more than one hundred households, reflecting the rapid development of Western New York following the completion of the Erie Canal. Over the next two centuries, Randolph continued to evolve while preserving the values of community spirit, local enterprise, and rural character that define it to this day.

Today, Randolph remains a proud small town with a thriving local business district, productive farms, manufacturing employers, and a strong educational presence through Randolph Central School. Its residents continue the tradition of public service and neighborly cooperation that began with the town's first meeting nearly two hundred years ago.

On behalf of the people of New York's 23rd Congressional District, I congratulate the residents of Randolph on this remarkable bicentennial milestone and extend my best wishes for continued prosperity and success in the years ahead.

HONORING PAUL MARCHAND AND  
HIS WORK ON BEHALF OF AMER-  
ICANS WITH DISABILITIES

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 19, 2026*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of Paul Marchand. With World Down Syndrome Day approaching this Saturday, this seemed an appropriate time to honor a titan in the national disability rights and disability policy community whose work transformed the lives of millions of people with disabilities and their families.

I have long admired him and his profound influence across the disability advocacy community—an arena in which I, too, have had the honor to work alongside countless families, advocates, and organizations. Over more than four decades, Paul Marchand helped shape the very foundation of modern federal disability policy.

Before coming to Washington, Paul served as a special education teacher and as a leader in Rhode Island's developmental disability community—bringing a deep understanding of families, educators, and individuals on the ground to his national work.

Paul joined The Arc of the United States' Public Policy Office in 1973 and became its Director in 1975. At a time when the voices of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities were too often ignored, he fought to ensure that those voices were heard within the halls of Congress and across the federal government. He also helped found what became the Consortium for Constituents with Disabilities, and he served as its Chair from 1975 through 2000. During his tenure, the coalition grew from fewer than a dozen organizations to a coalition of more than hundred disability organizations nationwide. The consummate consensus-builder, Paul united a diverse community around common goals of civil rights, inclusion, and opportunity.

Paul was deeply involved in the passage of some of the most consequential pieces of disability-rights legislation in our Nation's history. That includes early victories in the movement, including the Education for All Handicapped Children Act in 1975, the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act in 1980, and Child Abuse Treatment Amendments of 1984. He played a leading role in securing the enactment of each of these laws.

Crucially, he was a champion for the Americans with Disabilities Act, which I was proud to sponsor in the House alongside my friend Tony Coelho. That historic bill didn't just change the law; it changed hearts and minds across America. It changed how Americans perceive and treat the disability community. Paul helped make it happen. He did the same with the ADA Amendments Act in 2008. Additionally, he helped secure nine reauthorizations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, helping expand early intervention services, preschool programs, family supports, and legal protections for children with disabilities and their families. He was equally influential in strengthening employment opportunities and protections through repeated reauthorizations of the Rehabilitation Act, including the creation of supported employment, and in embedding disability provisions into broader workforce and job training legislation.

In addition to his legislative work, Paul served in leadership roles with the Center on Effective Government, SourceAmerica, and the American Association of People with Disabilities, and he was appointed by the Clinton Administration to the National Commission on Childhood Disability.

Paul retired in 2011 believing that the disability movement stood on the threshold of full inclusion. His optimism was rooted not in rhetoric but in decades of hard-earned progress shaped by his integrity, perseverance, and unwavering belief in the worth of every person. While we continue to work toward that goal, we get closer to its fulfillment seemingly every day.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation is more just, more accessible, and more compassionate because of Paul Marchand's life of service. I am honored to recognize his remarkable legacy and to extend the gratitude of this House to a man who devoted his career to expanding opportunity and protecting the civil rights of people with disabilities. I ask all my colleagues to join me in thanking him.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF  
CYNTHIA NUNES COLBERT

**HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 19, 2026*

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary service of Cynthia Nunes Colbert, President and CEO of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, as she prepares to retire after more than a decade of leadership.

For nearly thirteen years, Ms. Colbert has been a tireless advocate for those most in need. Under her leadership, Catholic Charities has served as a lifeline for families across the Houston region, offering not just assistance, but hope, stability, and dignity. Her work has always been grounded in a deep sense of faith and a belief in the worth of every person she served.

Her tenure was defined by steady leadership during some of the most difficult moments our community has faced. In the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, she led rapid efforts to deliver food, supplies, and financial assistance to families rebuilding their lives. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she guided the organization in delivering critical support to families facing economic hardship, ensuring help reached those who needed it most.

Ms. Colbert also looked to the future, helping launch the Family Opportunity Center in the Eastex-Jensen community, an investment that will continue to support families on their path to self-sufficiency for years to come.

Throughout her career, she has led with compassion, strength, and grace. Even in the face of profound personal loss, she continued to lead with clarity and purpose, never losing sight of her mission to serve others.

Her impact will be felt for generations in the families she helped and the communities she strengthened.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in gratitude for Cynthia Nunes Colbert's service to the people of Houston, and I wish her continued blessings in this next chapter.

COMMEMORATING STARLING  
SCHOOL AND THE LEADERSHIP  
OF CAROLYN CLOUD

**HON. KATHY CASTOR**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 19, 2026*

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during Black History Month to commemorate Starling School, located in the Childs Park neighborhood of St. Petersburg, and the leadership of Carolyn Cloud as a bedrock educational institution in St. Petersburg. Founded in 1974 by Viola and Jimmy Starling, Starling School has remained steadfast in its commitment to embracing and nurturing local youth.

Jimmy Starling was born and raised in Cuthbert, Georgia and Viola Starling was born and raised in Springvale, Georgia. Upon meeting and embracing their shared passion for education, they moved to Florida to make that dream a reality. Viola Starling's lifelong passion for early childhood education shaped the

institution's mission. Prior to establishing the school, Mrs. Starling worked in childcare throughout Pinellas County, including at Jordan Park, in Dunedin, and alongside her cousin, Fred Williams, at a local daycare. Determined to create a center of her own, she pursued her dream despite repeated financial barriers, ultimately securing a loan from a banker at the St. Petersburg Bank in downtown St. Petersburg in 1974. This achievement marked the beginning of a service-based institution dedicated to expanding educational access and empowering generations of families.

From its earliest days, Starling School has remained deeply rooted in family and legacy. Mrs. Starling not only laid the foundation of the school's legacy but envisioned its future well beyond her lifetime. The Starling family home, located adjacent to the original center in Childs Park, was intentionally incorporated into the school's design and later transformed into classrooms that now house the school's Voluntary Prekindergarten program. Each year, the center serves up to about 80 young learners through its early childhood education programs. Today, members of the second and third generations of the Starling family continue to operate and care for the center, preserving the founding values that have guided the institution for more than five decades.

Passing the torch to their daughter, Carolyn Cloud, has continued to preserve and advance her parents' vision. Under Ms. Cloud's leadership, Starling School has educated generations of students, many of whom have gone on to become doctors, lawyers, and community leaders. She has witnessed former students return to support the center through donations, mentorship, and service, while parents who were once students now entrust their own children to the school. In February 2024, Mrs. Cloud was honored by the Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas County in recognition of her extraordinary 50 years of dedication to education, noting her remarkable impact on more than 26,000 children between ages 2–5. The school was also named a 2022–2023 National Beta School of Merit in recognition of its commitment to academic excellence. This continuity reflects a living legacy of trust, care, and community investment.

Starling School emphasizes character, compassion, and responsibility alongside education. The center continues to reflect the foundational values instilled by the Starling family, "train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Through Cloud's leadership, the school remains a nurturing environment where children are valued, supported, and inspired to give back to the community that first invested in them.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Starling School for more than half a century of extraordinary service to St. Petersburg and to commend Carolyn Cloud for her unwavering dedication to preserving and advancing her family's vision. Through her stewardship, the legacy established by Viola and Jimmy Starling continues to uplift families, strengthen communities, and expand opportunity for generations to come. Their work reminds us that when a community invests in its children, it invests in its future. On behalf of my constituents, I congratulate Starling School on its 52nd anniversary and extend my sincere wishes for continued success and impact for many decades to come.

RECOGNIZING KAITLYN BERLETH

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 19, 2026*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor one of my constituents, Kaitlyn Berleth, Therapist and Lead Clinician at You Thrive Children's Advocacy Center, for her exceptional service to some of the most vulnerable members of our community. Ms. Berleth has made a profound and lasting impact on the lives of child abuse victims through compassionate, skilled, and trauma-informed therapeutic care. In her role, she provides ongoing trauma therapy while also delivering critical crisis intervention services—offering immediate emotional support and stabilization to children and families during some of the most difficult moments they will ever face. Her calm presence, clinical expertise, and unwavering professionalism create a safe and steady environment in times of acute distress.

Kaitlyn approaches each child with patience, empathy, and clinical excellence, meeting them where they are emotionally and developmentally. By utilizing evidence-based trauma therapy techniques, she helps children build healthy coping skills, emotional regulation, and resilience—tools that positively shape their lives far beyond the therapy room. In addition to serving children, Ms. Berleth provides therapeutic support to adult survivors of sexual abuse. She fosters an empowering and respectful space where individuals can process trauma, reclaim their sense of agency, and move toward long-term healing. She also offers vital guidance and reassurance to caregivers, helping families navigate the complex journey of recovery. Families consistently express gratitude for her compassion, professionalism, and steadfast commitment.

Mr. Speaker, the strength of our Nation is reflected in professionals who dedicate their lives to serving others with integrity and selflessness. Kaitlyn Berleth embodies the mission of You Thrive Children's Advocacy Center and the highest ideals of community service. It is clear that her work has made an extraordinary and deeply positive difference in countless lives. For these reasons, I am proud to recognize Kaitlyn Berleth as a 2026 Hero Among Us for Florida's 12th Congressional District and commend her for her outstanding service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GEORGE LATIMER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 19, 2026*

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 94.

RECOGNIZING THE SACRAMENTO FOOD BANK & FAMILY SERVICES

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 19, 2026*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services as it celebrates 50 years of distinguished service to the Sacramento region.

For five decades, the Sacramento Food Bank has strengthened our community through advocacy and an unwavering commitment to those in need. That legacy is built on the dedication of their leadership, board, and staff; people who have given their time, their creativity, and their heart to this work.

Guided by a mission to nourish our community members, the Sacramento Food Bank has worked tirelessly to fight poverty and hunger in Sacramento County by removing barriers for families and individuals. This organization has ensured that no child goes hungry, struggling families get back on their feet, seniors are nourished, and immigrants and refugees make Sacramento home, setting up those in need for self-sufficiency and financial independence.

Through their 112 partner agencies, the Sacramento Food Bank delivers accessible programs, including neighborhood distributions, CalFresh outreach, Food for Seniors, diaper distribution, legal services, SMUD Energy Help, and unwavering advocacy in addressing root causes of food insecurity and poverty. Their work has advanced policy reforms and strengthened programs at the local, state and national levels.

This milestone honors the resilience of those in need, the commitment of staff and volunteers, and the partnerships that help them meet demands.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the Sacramento Food bank's 50 years of compassion and advocacy for Sacramento.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF DR. ANDREW BILLINGSLEY

**HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 19, 2026*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 100th birthday of Dr. Andrew Billingsley. As the representative of Virginia's 3rd Congressional District, I have the honor of representing Dr. Billingsley's alma mater, Hampton University, known in his time as the Hampton Institute. After serving in the Army during World War II, Dr. Billingsley began his academic journey at Hampton where he served on student council. Ultimately, he transferred to Grinnell College, where he earned his bachelor's degree in political science.

He went on to earn master's degrees in social services and sociology from Boston University and the University of Michigan, respectively, and a doctoral degree in social policy and research from Brandeis University in 1964. Dr. Billingsley then brought his expertise to higher education, serving at the University