

CELEBRATING SOUTH LAKES HIGH SCHOOL'S 2025–2026 FRESHMEN BASKETBALL SEASONS

HON. JAMES R. WALKINSHAW

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 2026

Mr. WALKINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the South Lakes High School Freshmen Girls and Boys Basketball teams for their remarkable achievements during the 2025–2026 basketball season.

The South Lakes Freshmen Girls Basketball team completed an outstanding season with a record of 14–2, setting a new milestone as the winningest freshmen girls team in South Lakes High School history. Their success reflects the passion, teamwork, and determination displayed by these student-athletes throughout the season.

The South Lakes Freshmen Boys Basketball team also delivered an extraordinary season, finishing with an impressive record of 15–0–1. The team's undefeated season will stand as a benchmark for future South Lakes teams.

These accomplishments would not have been possible without the leadership, mentorship, and dedication of the coaches and volunteers who support these teams. I commend the entire coaching staff, parents, and the many individuals who give their time and energy to help these young athletes develop their skills, build character, and learn the value of teamwork.

The success of these teams is a source of great pride for South Lakes High School and the broader Fairfax community. Their achievements serve as an inspiration to fellow students and demonstrate the value of hard work and perseverance.

I am honored to represent a district that is home to such exceptional student-athletes. I commend them for the dedication they have displayed to their school and teams. Their accomplishments both on and off the court continue to make our district proud.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the South Lakes High School Freshmen Boys and Girls Basketball teams on their exceptional 2025–2026 seasons and in wishing these talented student-athletes continued success in the years ahead, both on and off the basketball court.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF GWENDOLYN HENDERSON

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 celebrate the life and legacy of Gwendolyn Henderson—educator, business owner, Tampa City Councilwoman, daughter of West Tampa, and champion of Black history.

The daughter of the late Asbury Henderson, a Korean War veteran, and the late Gladys Austin Henderson, Gwen was born and raised in Tampa, Florida, growing up in the working-class neighborhood of Carver City. She at-

tended Roland Park Elementary, Morgan Woods Elementary, West Tampa Junior High School, and Pierce Junior High School. She later earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from the Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University (FAMU), and a master's degree in education as well as education specialist's and higher education leadership degree from St. Leo University. She has also been a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority since 1994.

From Carver City to West Tampa, and then to Tampa Heights for 30 years, she was poised to serve as a well-grounded Member of Tampa City Council with a big heart for East Tampa neighbors especially. However, her true love and passion was education. Whether to her "favorite daughter" Ariel, or to the countless Hillsborough County students she was able to touch throughout her career as a teacher and mentor. Gwen started her educational career at Sligh Middle School but later transferred to Jefferson High School where she spent 25 years of her teaching career and embodied the Dragon Spirit—"Once a Dragon, Always a Dragon."

Gwen put incredible effort into ensuring that her students had all the opportunities to grow available to them. She implemented efforts at Jefferson High School that helped showcase her students' academic achievements and talents such as the Mr. and Miss Jefferson Scholarship Pageant, the Naturally Aware Proud and Strong (NAPS) Girl Empowerment Organization where she led by example and empowered young girls to become leaders in their communities, and the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Club, where she challenged students to consider other alternatives for higher learning and become more proud of their heritage and culture. Very shortly before passing, Gwen had launched a local, lively HBCU celebration to send-off Hillsborough County students on their way to Black colleges and universities.

After decades of being an educator, mentor, and inspiration to our young neighbors in Hillsborough County, Gwen was elected to the Tampa City Council in 2023 to represent District 5. In the City Council, Gwen continued to expand efforts she worked on as a community activist for decades.

Committed to restoring a Black-owned bookstore in the heart of Tampa, Gwen fulfilled a lifelong dream and founded the Black English Bookstore to curate reading options that represented the voice and culture of the Black community in Tampa and across all of America. Like a good book, Gwen brought comfort and community to neighbors across Tampa, while teaching us about ourselves, our culture, and our collective history. Her commitment to preserving and investing in Black-owned businesses was a pillar of her community advocacy. Her love for her hometown was evident in every action she took—from championing affordable housing and public safety to standing up for seniors and small businesses, and even supporting students and parents with free laptops when the COVID–19 pandemic forced remote learning. Gwen fought for the hopes and dreams of her community, including continuing the advocacy of rebuilding and expansion of the Fair Oaks Recreation Center in East Tampa.

Gwendolyn died too soon in 2025—but her legacy lives on in all the hearts of the people she inspired throughout her life. Her life is a

testimony of honoring Black history, Black culture, and Black lives. She is survived by her daughter Ariel Amirah Danley, her siblings, her nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my Tampa Bay Area neighbors, I commend Gwendolyn Henderson for a life dedicated to public service, the preservation of Black history, and a love for the City of Tampa and its community.

RECOGNIZING KATIE HENRY

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 2026

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary member of our community, Katie Henry. Katie is a true Hero Among Us whose generosity, leadership, and compassion have made a lasting impact on the Hernando County Family YMCA and the community they serve. Her support of the YMCA has always been rooted in a genuine desire to help others and ensure that everyone, regardless of financial circumstances, has access to programs, resources, and opportunities that improve their quality of life. Katie has been a strong advocate for their mission, actively supporting fundraising efforts that allow the YMCA to provide scholarships and financial assistance to individuals and families in need. Through her dedication, countless community members have been able to participate in programs that promote youth development, healthy living, and meaningful connection, opportunities that might not have been possible without her involvement and support. What truly sets Katie apart is her selflessness. She gives her time, energy, and talents without expectation of recognition or reward, leading by example and inspiring others to do the same. Her ability to bring people together around a shared purpose has strengthened our organization and reinforced the importance of community-driven impact. Although she does not currently serve in a formal leadership role, Katie continues to support the YMCA and its mission through her actions and advocacy. Her ongoing commitment reflects a deep belief in service and in the power of community to lift one another up.

Katie Henry embodies the spirit of a Hero Among Us. Through her generosity, quiet leadership, and unwavering commitment to helping others, she has made a meaningful and lasting difference in the lives of those connected to the Hernando County Family YMCA. It is clear that Ms. Katie Henry has made an extraordinary and deeply positive impact on countless lives, and I am profoundly grateful for her dedication and service.

It is my distinct privilege to recognize her as 2026 Hero Among Us for Florida's 12th Congressional District.

CELEBRATING BRAIN AWARENESS WEEK

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate March 16th through March 20th as Brain Awareness Week.

The Brain Awareness Campaign is a worldwide celebration of the brain that brings together scientists, families, schools, and communities. Brain Awareness Week is the culmination of these efforts and is celebrated throughout the United States and in many parts of the world.

This global celebration, launched by The Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives in 1996, and supported by partners like the Society for Neuroscience, presents an opportunity to bring attention to the significant advances in brain science and advocate for science funding. Brain Awareness Week provides opportunities to learn more about the brain and educate the public on the importance of continued research.

As co-chair of the Congressional Neuroscience Caucus, I am proud of the crucial neuroscience work being conducted in the United States, including in my district at the University of California, Davis. Last year, scientists at U.C. Davis harnessed the power of machine learning, a branch of artificial intelligence, to track anxiety-related behaviors. Their findings suggest a strong connection between early-life nervousness and the eventual development of anxiety and depressive disorders. Anxiety disorders, the most prevalent mental illnesses in the United States, impact nearly 20 percent of the population, and disproportionately affect women. Researchers believe this research could pave the way for preventing these disorders before they fully develop.

I am also proud to have authored the Mental Health Research Accelerator Act, which promotes public private partnerships to invest in further mental health research. The bill provides \$10 billion in allocable tax credits over a six-year period, which are available to nonprofits, state and local agencies, and private companies who collaborate on neurological research.

It is essential that we keep supporting neuroscience research to enable world-class researchers to continue their vital work on a wide range of conditions, including Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, autism spectrum disorders, depression, and addiction. Events like Brain Awareness Week help every American understand how important this research is. Please join me in recognizing Brain Awareness Week and the crucial work of neuroscientists across the globe.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSH BRECHEEN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 2026

Mr. BRECHEEN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained from voting due to an unforeseen travel complication. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 88; NAY on Roll Call No. 89; YEA on Roll Call No. 90; and YEA on Roll Call No. 91.

CONGRATULATING MRS. SHERRI STULL ON HER RETIREMENT FROM COCALICO SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 2026

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate and recognize Mrs. Sherri Stull on her retirement after 19 years with Cocalico School District.

Mrs. Sherri Stull acted as Business Manager for Cocalico School District, which serves almost 3,000 students in northern Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Her tenure from 2007 to 2026 overlapped with many changes to the school district, including renovations to the middle school and elementary schools, the installation of state-of-the-art sports fields, and various other projects that improved the district.

In addition to her role as Business Manager, Mrs. Stull served as a Pennsylvania Certified School Business Official, a Pennsylvania Association of School Officials member, a Primary Board Representative for the Lancaster County Tax Collection Bureau, a Tax Appeal Board Alternate Board Member, a trustee for the Cocalico Education Foundation, and the secretary for the Cocalico Board of School.

Mrs. Stull has left an enormous impact on Cocalico School District. I congratulate Mrs. Sherri Stull on her well-deserved retirement, and I wish her the best wherever her future takes her.

HONORING THE FLORIDA SENTINEL BULLETIN AND THE ANDREWS FAMILY

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 honor the Andrews family and the Florida Sentinel Bulletin, the long running African American-led newspaper based in Tampa, known for its deep roots in the community and its role as a vital source of news, culture, and advocacy. The Sentinel Bulletin's founding, legacy, and enduring impact embody the very spirit of the Black press in America.

On December 1, 1945, Cyril Blythe Andrews resurrected the Florida Sentinel on historic Central Avenue in Tampa, Florida, at a time when African Americans were largely excluded from fair and accurate representation in the media. Years earlier, the original Florida Sentinel had been founded in 1919 by Gen. William W. Andrews but was later forced to close during the Great Depression. Following in his father's footsteps, C. Blythe Andrews understood that information was power and that an informed community is a community prepared to demand justice and opportunity.

A scholar, athlete, businessman, and community leader, Mr. Andrews built more than a newspaper. Through his leadership in business development, housing initiatives, and civic institutions, he expanded economic opportunity for Black families across Florida.

Under his direction, the Sentinel printed its own editions, developed statewide distribution networks, and became a trusted voice for African Americans navigating segregation and systemic inequality.

In 1959, C. Blythe Andrews, Jr. expanded the publication, transforming it into the Florida Sentinel Bulletin and ushering in a new era of growth and modernization. A Boston University graduate with a master's degree in journalism, he strengthened the paper's editorial voice during the Civil Rights Era and the ongoing struggle for equal opportunity. Under his leadership, the Sentinel Bulletin installed modern printing presses, expanded circulation, and became one of the few Black owned newspapers in the Nation with full in house production capabilities. Beyond journalism, C. Blythe Andrews, Jr. served on numerous civic boards and advisory councils, ensuring that the concerns of Tampa's African American community were represented at every level. The Sentinel Bulletin was never simply a publication—it was a platform for advocacy, accountability, and advancement.

The history of the Florida Sentinel Bulletin would not be complete without acknowledging other remarkable individuals who contributed to its legacy. Mrs. Gwendolyn Hayes has devoted 57 years to the Sentinel Bulletin, beginning as a proofreader in 1968 and rising through roles as crime reporter, typesetter, city editor, and editor. Her dedication ensured that the Sentinel maintained its standard of excellence and trained future journalists in every facet of the business. Mrs. Betty Dawkins has served the paper for 49 years, beginning as a proofreader and ultimately becoming advertising director. Through her leadership, the Sentinel strengthened relationships with local businesses and maintained the economic foundation necessary to continue publishing. Her work exemplifies the behind the scenes commitment required to sustain a Black owned newspaper for decades.

The Florida Sentinel Bulletin has a unique and credible legacy that has been stewarded by generations of the Andrews family. Today, siblings C. Blythe "Drew" Andrews, III and Kay Andrews oversee the Sentinel Bulletin's continued service to the community. Beginning her work at the paper as a teenager, Ms. Andrews rose through the ranks to become publisher in 1996, ensuring that the Sentinel Bulletin remains responsive to the evolving needs of the community while honoring its historic mission.

This past December, the Florida Sentinel Bulletin celebrated its 80th anniversary. For eight decades, the Sentinel has chronicled the triumphs and trials of Tampa's African American community. It has informed voters, exposed injustice, celebrated achievement, and preserved stories that might otherwise have gone untold. During this Black History Month, we honor this institution as a living testament to truth, entrepreneurship, and the unyielding pursuit of equality.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Florida Sentinel Bulletin and the Andrews family for their founding vision, their generational leadership, and their immeasurable impact on Tampa Bay and the State of Florida. Its pages reflect not only history, but the heartbeat of a strong and vocal community.