

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MAJOR JOHN "ALEX" KLINNER

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 2026*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Major John "Alex" Klinner. Major Klinner was deployed in support of Operation Epic Fury when his KC-135 crashed in Western Iraq on March 12, 2026. Major Klinner was one of six airmen killed, and one of three members of the 6th Air Refueling Wing performing duties for the 99th Air Refueling Squadron of Birmingham, Alabama.

Major Klinner grew up in Auburn, Alabama, with parents, Johnny and Mary Ellen Klinner. He graduated from Auburn High School in 2011 and Auburn University in 2016 with a degree in mechanical engineering. For many years, he served as a counselor at Camp Mac in Munford. He was also a leader in many student organizations.

Major Klinner joined the Air Force in 2017 through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program and completed pilot training in November 2018. He was a combat veteran many times over, logging 543 hours of combat and combat support hours. At the time of his passing, he had recently been promoted to Major.

Many in the Auburn and Birmingham communities knew Alex to be kind, devoted servant-leader to those around him. He is survived by his wife, Libby, and their three young children, as well as his parents, along with two sisters and their families. My prayers are with his family and friends as they face this tragic loss.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the life and service of Major John "Alex" Klinner and extending our deepest condolences to his family. We remain grateful for his service.

RECOGNIZING PETE BENAVIDEZ

**HON. GABE VASQUEZ**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 2026*

Mr. VASQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pete Benavidez for his outstanding contributions to New Mexico's veteran community and his service to our country. Pete is a veteran who devotes his free time to advocating for and helping other veterans in his community.

Pete is originally from Albuquerque, New Mexico, and he now lives in Belen. For over twenty years, Pete served and protected our country in both the Army and the New Mexico National Guard. During his service, he worked as a Track Vehicle Repairer and was deployed to combat.

While conducting a recovery operation for a vehicle, Pete was injured by an Improvised Explosive Device, which caused severe brain damage and resulted in him being medically discharged from the military. Pete attempted to work several jobs after his discharge but could not maintain employment because of his combat-related disability. As Pete faced health challenges, he sought help from his local Department of Veterans Affairs and the Raymond

G. Murphy VA Medical Center. There he received treatment that improved his health, allowed him to continue working towards being a family man, and pushed him to serve his community.

To this day, Pete remains an active force in New Mexico's veteran community and shares his story to bring awareness to the greatest issues impacting veterans. During my time in Congress, he has worked closely with my office to advocate for the Major Richard Star Act and other measures to improve veterans' lives. In his free time, he supports other veterans in his community by helping them apply for VA benefits, educating them on services available to them, and even driving veterans to their appointments and veteran group meetings. Pete's commitment to service continues through his son, who is now serving in the New Mexico National Guard.

On behalf of the people of New Mexico's 2nd Congressional District, I would like to thank Pete for his service to our country and his commitment to ensuring our brave men and women receive the care and support they deserve.

RECOGNIZING AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS WEEK

**HON. SUSIE LEE**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 2026*

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize March 23rd to March 27th as National AHEC (Area Health Education Centers) Week.

Southern Nevadans are facing a dire shortage of health care providers, which means longer wait times, fewer choices, and less access to quality care.

According to new Association of American Medical Colleges, the U.S. could see a shortage of up to 124,000 physicians by 2034, and the American Hospital Association says more than 200,000 new registered nurses are needed each year to meet increasing health care needs and to replace nurses entering retirement.

To solve this crisis, underserved communities like ours need to expand the resources we offer so that medical providers can learn and grow their careers in southern Nevada. AHECs are a part of that solution, expanding the health care workforce, especially in rural and underserved communities.

That has been and will continue to be key as we fight to ensure every Nevadan has access to the health care they need. The AHEC program has already trained millions of health care professionals. Across our state, from Elko to Reno to Las Vegas, the AHEC program is strengthening the future of our health care workforce which will help the health of all Nevadans.

That is why I am proud to support this program and why, year after year, I have fought to secure essential federal investments in the national AHEC program.

On behalf of my constituents at the Nevada AHEC program, their national counterparts, and the thousands of Americans who benefit from the care fostered by AHECs, I am proud to recognize this National Area Health Education Centers Week.

I thank them all for their dedication to keeping our communities healthy.

RECOGNIZING DIANE KORNEGAY

**HON. DANIEL WEBSTER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 2026*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Lake County Superintendent Diane Kornegay for being named Florida's 2026 Superintendent of the Year by the Florida Association of District Schools Superintendents.

The Florida Association of District School Superintendents has honored outstanding leadership in public education through this program since 1988. Ms. Kornegay's selection reflects her dedication to students, her commitment to excellence, and her significant contributions to education.

Ms. Kornegay has served as Lake County's superintendent since December 2016 and has more than 35 years of experience in public education. She is also active in state and local education organizations and has received numerous awards recognizing her leadership and service.

Under her leadership, Lake County Schools earned an A-rating from the Florida Department of Education in 2025 for the first time since 2008. The district has also seen strong improvements in graduation rates and overall academic performance. Additionally, accelerated programs such as AICE, Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate, invested in new schools and campus improvements, and enhanced safety measures.

It is my pleasure to recognize Ms. Kornegay for this remarkable achievement, and I thank her for her dedicated service to Lake County's students and families. I am honored to represent Lake County in the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING CHARLES H. MILBY HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 2026*

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Charles H. Milby High School as it celebrates a full century since opening its doors in March 1926.

In Houston's East End, Milby High School is more than a school. It is a landmark. And reaching 100 years is not just a milestone, it is a rare achievement that speaks to the strength of this institution and the neighborhoods that fuel it. Milby began with just 13 teachers and a little over 200 students, replacing Harrisburg High School just a few blocks away. One hundred years later, it stands as one of the most recognized and respected schools in Houston, serving students. Generations have walked those same halls, and many come back to serve the same school that shaped them. That pride runs deep.

Milby has built a reputation for opening doors. With strong academics, STEM and career programs, and partnerships tied to Houston's industries, it has prepared students for

college and the workforce. It has helped thousands of students reach graduation and realize their futures.

Its graduates go on to become educators, business owners, and leaders right here in Houston. Today, that legacy continues under Principal Ruth Peña, a proud Milby graduate leading the next generation. And through all the change around it, Milby has remained in the same place, with the same name, serving the same community for 100 years. That kind of consistency is rare, and it is something to be proud of.

So today, we are not just marking time. We are celebrating a century of education, of opportunity, and of hope for a better future. Here is to 100 years of Milby and to many more.

RECOGNIZING RACHEL PETRIE

**HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 2026*

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during Women's History Month to honor an exceptional and influential leader from Rochester, New York: Rachel Petrie.

Rachel is a dedicated nurse whose service exemplifies the very best of our healthcare professionals. For more than seven years at Unity Hospital, she has served in the Emergency Department in a variety of critical roles, including Charge Nurse, Triage Nurse, EMS Triage Nurse, Preceptor, and Mentor. In each capacity, she demonstrates exceptional skill, steady leadership, and an unwavering commitment to patient care.

Her impact extends beyond clinical excellence. Rachel strengthens her team through mentorship and collaboration, helping to foster confidence, cohesion, and resilience in a fast-paced and demanding environment. Outside of the hospital, she continues her service by volunteering with her local EMS team and Fire Department, further demonstrating her dedication to helping others.

Mr. Speaker, Rachel Petrie's work reflects a deep and enduring commitment to service, compassion, and community. During Women's History Month, it is especially fitting that we honor extraordinary women who have gone above and beyond to strengthen our communities. I am proud to recognize her and extend my deepest gratitude for her continued service.

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF LANCASTER LEBANON HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

**HON. LLOYD SMUCKER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 2026*

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate Lancaster Lebanon Habitat for Humanity for their 40 years of positive impact.

Habitat for Humanity is an inclusive Christian ministry and nonprofit organization that builds, repairs, renovates, and revitalizes affordable homes alongside people in need of a decent place to live. Originally established as the Lancaster Area Habitat for Humanity in

1986, the organization merged with its Lebanon affiliate 30 years later in 2016.

Over the past 40 years, Lancaster Lebanon Habitat for Humanity has strengthened and renewed the counties it serves. Notable projects include the development of a community of 70 affordable homes known as Emerald Valley in Lancaster City and the transformation of the Wooden Nickel Tavern into their first office space. Current and upcoming projects include the five-home Linden Street Build in Columbia and the eight Lancaster City-based Wheatland Build, which will utilize federal funds from the HOME program. Lancaster Lebanon Habitat for Humanity also operates the ReStore, a home improvement donation store that helps fund their construction efforts.

Through sweat, grit, and thousands of work hours contributed by both prospective homeowners and volunteers, Lancaster Lebanon Habitat for Humanity has made homeownership a reality for over 300 families. I thank the organization for its positive impact on our community, and I wish them another 40 years of success. I look forward to seeing all they accomplish next.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF PRIVATE BENNETT H. WATERS

**HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 2026*

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Private Bennett H. Waters, a serviceman who tragically died as a prisoner of war during World War II.

Private Waters was a Southeast Georgia serviceman whose remains were recently identified by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency.

A member of the Army Air Force 17th Bombardment Squadron, 27th Bombardment Group, Private Waters was stationed in the Philippines.

He was taken prisoner during the Japanese invasion of the Philippines in April 1942 and remained a POW until his death in 1944.

He is forever memorialized on the Walls of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial.

His remains will now be transferred from the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu to his final resting place among family in Georgia.

We thank Private Waters for his bravery, service, and sacrifice to our Nation 82 years ago.

RECOGNIZING MR. DANIEL J. RILEY

**HON. JEFFERSON SHREVE**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 2026*

Mr. SHREVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Daniel J. Riley for his decades of distinguished service to the City of Greenfield and the State of Indiana.

Mr. Riley's career reflects steady leadership, sound judgment, and a deep commitment to

public service. A graduate of Rochester High School and Indiana University Indianapolis, he has spent nearly his entire professional life investing in the people, institutions, and communities that strengthen our state.

As President of the Greenfield City Council, Daniel Riley has helped lead the city through a period of significant growth, working to ensure that Greenfield's expansion is guided by purpose, planning, and a clear vision for the future. Prior to his service in local government, he devoted much of his career to public education and community development.

Mr. Riley's contributions extend well beyond city government. Through his work with the Lilly Endowment, the leadership of his own consulting firm, and his service to numerous nonprofit organizations, he has consistently brought thoughtful leadership and practical problem-solving to every role he has undertaken. In recognition of those contributions, he was awarded the Sagamore of the Wabash.

After more than 50 years of service, Dan Riley will retire in June. Although his formal duties may be concluding, Dan's record of service will endure in the stronger institutions, better communities, and countless lives he has helped shape in Greenfield and across Indiana.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Daniel J. Riley for his outstanding service and wishing him all the best in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE GRANT-KOHR'S RANCH NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE IN DEER LODGE, MONTANA IN CELEBRATION OF AMERICA'S 250TH

**HON. RYAN K. ZINKE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 2026*

Mr. ZINKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 250th year since our Nation's founding by recognizing the legacy of Conrad Kohrs and the Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site in Deer Lodge, Montana for their historical impact on the American West.

Grant-Kohrs Ranch was established as a unit of the National Park Service in 1972; the ranch preserves the story of the frontier cattle industry and the people whose determination and grit helped to shape the American West. What began as a modest ranch in 1862, founded by John Francis Grant, was later purchased and expanded by Conrad Kohrs in 1866. Through vision and hard work, Kohrs transformed the property into one of the largest open-range cattle empires in the country, operating over 10 million acres and earning him the nickname "the Cattle King of Montana."

Conrad Kohrs became a United States citizen in 1857 after years of travelling and working in the American south. Conrad made his way to the Montana Territory in 1862 looking for gold and found it not in the mines, but in cattle. Kohrs recognized the growing demand for beef among miners and settlers. Conrad purchased the ranch in 1867 and by the 1880's held fifty-thousand grazing cattle.

Today, the ranch still stands as a museum that tells the story of a different era when millions of cattle roamed freely across the western plains. The historical site spans more than