

baseball team but a club that has united communities, inspired pride, and enriched our national pastime. The Chicago Cubs remain a timeless symbol of resilience, tradition, and hope.

The recognition of the Chicago Cubs' 150th anniversary underscores the franchise's enduring place as one of the most historic and beloved institutions in American sports and affirms the team's unique role in shaping the identity and spirit of the City of Chicago and the State of Illinois. Their legacy extends far beyond the baseball diamond through the countless memories shared by millions of fans around the world.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and all my colleagues in congratulating the Chicago Cubs on their 150th anniversary.

COMMEMORATING THE 111TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 111th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. As a Jewish American, I feel a profound responsibility to speak out against genocide and oppression wherever they occur. We must never forget the atrocities committed more than a century ago, that resulted in the death of 1.5 million men, women, and children at the hands of the Ottoman government.

As history continues to be under threat of being rewritten, it is more important than ever to speak clearly and truthfully and to call this crime by its rightful name—genocide. We owe it to the victims, their descendants, and to future generations to honor their memory and ensure that this history is neither erased nor forgotten.

Today, I stand in solidarity with Armenian Americans in Illinois and across the Nation as we honor the memory of those who were lost. We must continue to educate the world about the first genocide of the 20th century.

RECOGNIZING MR. JIM MOREHEAD

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2026 Tulare Kiwanis Farmer of the Year, Mr. Jim Morehead. A lifelong resident of the Central Valley and respected local leader, Jim has dedicated decades of service to his community, leaving a lasting impact on generations to come.

After Jim's family moved from Texas to Pixley, California, following World War II, they established a multi-generational farming operation that continues today. Jim went on to earn a bachelor's degree in agricultural business from Fresno State University and used his education to reinvest in his family's farm.

Over the years, he cultivated a wide variety of crops alongside his father, including cotton, corn, wheat, and alfalfa, before transitioning to almond production with his son in the late 1990s.

Beyond his work in the field, Jim has been a steadfast advocate for California. He has served in numerous leadership roles with organizations such as the Central Valley Almond Association, Pixley Tri City Growers Cotton Cooperative, California Cotton Alliance, and Pixley Irrigation District, helping advance policies and practices that support farmers across the region.

Jim's commitment to service extends well beyond the agricultural sector. He served 20 years on the Pixley Unified School District Board, fostering student achievement and community growth. For the past 25 years, he has been an active member of the Pixley Foundation, supporting vital resources like the local food pantry and library. In addition, Jim has been a faithful leader at the Pixley United Brethren Church, where he has served on the board for 45 years.

Jim exemplifies the values of hard work, service, and leadership that define the Central Valley. His contributions to Pixley, Tulare County, and the greater agricultural community will be felt for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mr. Jim Morehead as the 2026 Tulare Kiwanis Farmer of the Year and in thanking him for his outstanding service to the Central Valley.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF LISA PEREZ JACKSON

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an incredible woman, Mrs. Lisa Perez Jackson, a distinguished native of my hometown and the district I serve. Her career includes an incredible path, spanning nearly four decades in state and federal government, public policy, and the private sector. While Mrs. Jackson was born in Philadelphia, she was raised in Pontchartrain Park by her adopted parents, Benjamin and Marie Perez. In 1979, she graduated as valedictorian from St. Mary's Dominican High School and would later graduate summa cum laude from Tulane University in 1983 with a degree in chemical engineering. As a National Merit Scholar, Ms. Jackson went on to earn a Master of Science in Chemical Engineering from Princeton University in 1986. Shortly thereafter, Jackson would begin her distinguished career in government, first as an engineer with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Washington, D.C. before subsequent promotions as deputy director and acting director of enforcement of the Agency's regional office in New York City.

After 16 years with the EPA, Jackson joined the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in March 2002 as assistant commissioner of compliance and enforcement

and would later serve as assistant commissioner for land use management. She was appointed to lead DEP in 2006 by then Governor Jon Corzine and would later serve as the Governor's Chief of Staff.

On January 23, 2009, Jackson was confirmed by the United States Senate to serve as President Barack Obama's Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. During her tenure as EPA Administrator, Jackson oversaw the development of stricter fuel efficiency standards and EPA's response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and setting National Ambient Air Quality Standards. In 2013, Jackson became Apple, Inc.'s Vice President of Environment, Policy and Social Initiatives. During her tenure at Apple, Jackson led the company's transformation into a global leader in corporate environmental responsibility, achieving 100 percent renewable energy for Apple's worldwide operations in 2018 and implementing an industry-leading supplier clean energy program that added over 5 gigawatts of new clean energy globally. Jackson oversaw Apple's commitment to become carbon neutral across its entire business and supply chain by 2030, a commitment that Apple is still on track to meet to this day.

Beyond environmental leadership, Jackson launched Apple's Racial Equity and Justice Initiative (REJI) in June 2020 following nationwide protests against racial injustice. Under her leadership, the program more than doubled its initial \$100 million commitment to surpass \$200 million in investments over three years, focusing on three core pillars: education, economic empowerment, and criminal justice reform. These investments include the creation of the Propel Center—a \$25 million global innovation and learning hub serving the entire HBCU community with curriculum in AI, machine learning, social justice, and entrepreneurship. Jackson also expanded the HBCU C² initiative to 45 community coding centers and regional hubs on HBCU campuses, reaching more than 160,000 learners, and committed over \$50 million to HBCUs and Hispanic-Serving Institutions for STEM opportunities. These investments also include but are not limited to the funding of venture capital firms, Community Development Financial Institutions, and Minority Depository Institutions supporting Black, Hispanic/Latinx, and Indigenous entrepreneurs.

Jackson was also responsible for Apple's worldwide government affairs function, product accessibility work, and education policy programs, reporting directly to CEO Tim Cook. She was recognized by TIME Magazine as one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World. Throughout her career, Jackson earned the respect of engineers, environmentalists and peers alike for her deep understanding of the legislative process and her commitment to accuracy and fairness, viewing politics not simply as a beat, but as a public trust, connecting government actions to the people they affect. As she retires, she leaves behind a legacy of integrity, insight, and service to the country. Today, I salute her on an incredible life of service.

HONORING BOB FUCHS FOR HIS INDUCTION INTO THE DADE COUNTY FARM BUREAU HALL OF HONOR

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bob Fuchs, a leader in South Florida's agricultural community and a third-generation orchid grower from Homestead, Florida, on his induction into the Dade County Farm Bureau Hall of Honor.

For more than six decades, Mr. Fuchs has dedicated his life to the cultivation, preservation, and advancement of orchids, helping to elevate Miami-Dade County as a global hub for horticultural excellence. From working alongside his grandfather, Mr. Fuchs developed a deep respect for the land and a passion that would shape his life's work.

Mr. Fuchs went on to build that passion into a world-renowned enterprise, R.F. Orchids, while also serving his community as an educator. His contributions to the field extend far beyond our district. Mr. Fuchs has been credited with the discovery of new orchid species in Central and South America and led the American Orchid Society as President.

Mr. Fuchs' achievements have earned him widespread recognition, including induction into the Florida Agriculture Hall of Fame and international honors from leading horticultural institutions.

Mr. Fuchs' story reflects the very best of South Florida, hard work, resilience, and a deep-rooted connection to the land. His lifelong contributions have strengthened our local economy, advanced agricultural science, and inspired generations of growers and conservationists.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ASHLEY HINSON

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Mrs. HINSON. Mr. Speaker, due to my attendance at the House Appropriations Committee's markup of the FY27 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill, I missed the first vote on April 22, 2026.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 130.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PAUL HEAVENRIDGE

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Paul Heavenridge who passed away on December 10, 2025. Paul devoted his career to improving the quality of life for the community of Petaluma and the extended North Bay.

Paul founded and led Literacyworks, a Petaluma-based nonprofit established to expand literacy for adults and families to provide

dynamic resources and pathways for lifelong learning. Under his stewardship, Literacyworks supported adult learners with practical, research-based tools and partnerships that improved educational access, workforce readiness, and family wellbeing. In 2015, Paul helped launch the Literacyworks Center at Santa Rosa Junior College—a model program providing scholarships and wraparound support for nontraditional and economically disadvantaged students.

Paul's commitment to improving literacy extended beyond Literacyworks. He served as a Sonoma County Library Commissioner to support public libraries and equitable access to reading, learning, and information, characteristics he deemed essential for community health. Through Literacyworks AmeriCorps, Paul also championed statewide library-led literacy initiatives, partnering with the California State Library's California Library Literacy Services to strengthen capacity at libraries throughout the state. These initiatives helped coordinate programming, training, and day-to-day support so local literacy programs could thrive.

Beyond classrooms and computer labs, Paul served his community on the Friends of the Petaluma River board, helping steward a treasured local waterway through conservation, education, and public events.

Mr. Speaker, Paul Heavenridge believed that literacy is a gateway to work, independence, and a fuller life, and he dedicated his career to making that gateway wider for everyone. I respectfully ask that you join me in honoring his extraordinary life and in extending our deepest condolences to his family, friends, colleagues, and the many learners whose futures were brightened by his work.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF VIVIAN COMEAU, GIRL SCOUT BRONZE CROSS RECIPIENT

HON. HERBERT C. CONAWAY, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Vivian Comeau, a young woman from Trenton, New Jersey. I also recognize her as a recipient of the Girl Scout Bronze Cross, one of the highest honors bestowed by Girl Scouts of the USA.

The Girl Scout Bronze Cross is a national lifesaving decoration bestowed by Girl Scouts in extraordinary circumstances. It recognizes acts of exceptional heroism in which a Girl Scout demonstrates uncommon courage, sound judgment, and selflessness while saving another person's life.

Vivian Comeau embodied courage, confidence and character throughout her life and certainly during her fourteen-years as a Girl Scout with Girl Scouts of Central and Southern New Jersey. She was a dedicated member of Troop 30575, a committed sister to her fellow Girl Scouts, and a young woman whose life reflected service, kindness, and quiet strength. Her participation in Girl Scouting was not defined by accolades or badges, but by her commitment to the Girl Scout promise. She consistently showed up for her troop, her community, and the values she carried with her every day.

Vivian's heroism was demonstrated through her decision to be an organ donor, truly a profound choice that gave others renewed hope and life. Her generosity continues to inspire and comfort many beyond her family and community. Following a national review, Girl Scouts of the USA honored Vivian's selfless spirit with the Bronze Cross, affirming the exceptional courage and compassion of her final act of service.

Vivian Comeau's life reminds us that heroism often lies in thoughtful decisions made with generosity and concern for others. Through her actions, she showed that leadership is measured by the lives touched through courage and care, not only by titles or recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I join the residents of New Jersey's 3rd Congressional District, the Girl Scout community, and all who are inspired by Vivian's life, in honoring Vivian Comeau, Girl Scout Bronze Cross recipient. Her legacy of service, courage, and character will endure, and she will be remembered for the difference she made in others' lives.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF DR. BARBARA BIGSBY BOYD

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Dr. Barbara Bigsby Boyd. Dr. Boyd was elected in 1994 to the Alabama House of Representatives for the 32nd District covering portions of Calhoun and Talladega Counties. She has served as the Democratic Caucus Vice Chair and a member of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators.

Dr. Boyd was born in Anniston, Alabama, on January 31, 1937. She attended Cobb High School and received her B.A. Degree in French and English from Miles College, her M.A. in Supervision and Curriculum Development, and her Ed.D. in Instructional Leadership and Reading from the University of Alabama.

Dr. Boyd spent 45 years in education serving in both public and private education in secondary, two-year and four-year colleges including Jacksonville State University, Gadsden State Community College, and Miles College.

Dr. Boyd is a member of the Trustee Board of Murray Temple Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, a life member of the NAACP, as well as the Alabama New South Coalition and Dorcas Art and Social Club. She is also a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Phi Delta Kappa, and Kappa Delta Pi. Her committees in the State House include Children and Senior Advocacy, County and Municipal Government, Rules and State Government.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and celebrating the extraordinary career of Dr. Boyd and wish her the very best in her retirement. I thank her for her service to the state of Alabama.