

and operated a local video rental store franchise, Silver Screen Videos, which became neighborhood fixtures in the North Bay.

Mr. Speaker, Rick Lafranchi is survived by his wife Debby, his children, Christie and Rick, as well as his grandchildren. I respectfully ask that you join me in honoring his extraordinary life and in extending our deepest condolences to his family, friends, colleagues, and customers who remember him for his character and kindness.

CELEBRATING THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH TERRELL'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LANCE GOODEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2026

Mr. GOODEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in my hometown of Terrell, Texas. Founded in 1875 in borrowed quarters, this congregation has been a local institution of faith for over a century.

The church constructed a simple sanctuary on land purchased from R.A. Terrell in 1881, solidifying its presence and influence in my community. Although initially bare, the land was quickly developed. A tall frame building sufficient to accommodate the growing congregation was erected at the corner of Adelaide and Asylum in 1895. This building, ornamented with a bell tower and spire, stained glass windows, and a baptistery, became a symbol of unwavering faith. The present brick parsonage was built next door in 1958, replacing the old frame structure. In 1988, the Charles E. Mull Christian Family Center was dedicated, providing a multi-use space for classrooms, offices, a conference room, and athletic facilities.

I congratulate and thank the clergy and staff on this milestone—Pastor Craig Rutherford, Lisa Cross, Mary Kay Cole, Jerry Vick, and Donna Best. The First Christian Church of Terrell will continue to be a source of faith, service, and strength for generations to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELIJAH CRANE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2026

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I unintentionally voted against the Bentz Amendment No. 2 to H.R. 7567, Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026. I want to reflect that I support this amendment and intended to vote YES.

SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF MAY 8, 2026, THROUGH MAY 17, 2026, AS 'NATIONAL AMERICAN BIRDING WEEK'

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2026

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a bipartisan resolution that I am in-

roducing with my Ohio colleague, Representative Robert E. Latta, proclaiming May 8, 2026, through May 17, 2026, as National American Birding Week.

Across our Nation, nearly 96 million birders contribute more than \$90 billion in job income each year. That is not just recreation, that is an economic engine rooted in conservation.

Each spring, an estimated 3.5 billion birds, representing over 350 species, make their journey north, many pausing along the shores of our Great Lakes to rest and refuel before crossing those vast freshwater horizons. In Northwest Ohio, we are blessed to witness this living miracle.

Our Great Lakes region becomes a gathering place for people from across the globe—environmental stewards, scientists, families, and visitors—drawn by the beauty and wonder of migration. Events like the Biggest Week in American Birding, hosted by the Black Swamp Bird Observatory in Oak Harbor, showcase what is possible when conservation and economic development work hand in hand. These efforts sustain local communities, support small businesses, and deepen our understanding of the fragile ecosystems that sustain life.

In Ohio, we are proud to welcome visitors from near and far. We cherish this freshwater kingdom and the life it sustains. And we remain committed to protecting it, so that generations to come may stand beneath open skies, watch the wings overhead, and know that nature still endures.

RECOGNIZING THE LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL CONSTITUTION TEAM

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2026

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a group of impressive students from Oregon's 1st Congressional District—Lincoln High School's Constitution Team. Earlier this month, the Lincoln High School Constitution Team placed sixth at the annual We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution national finals.

This annual competition allows hundreds of students from around the Nation to demonstrate their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution, government, and Supreme Court decisions by arguing historical and contemporary constitutional issues. The knowledge, critical thinking, and civic engagement demonstrated through this competition underscores the importance of programs that prepare students to understand and participate in democracy. These students consider and debate contemporary issues through a constitutional lens.

They have learned from their teachers, coaches, and importantly, from each other. Their accomplishment is a testament to their hard work and analytical skills and exemplifies the importance of civics education.

The constitution team at Lincoln High School has consistently placed among the top teams in the Nation. Over the years they have established a tradition of excellence that has been nurtured by dedicated educators and volunteer coaches, administrators, students, and their families.

As a senior member of the Education and Workforce Committee in the House of Rep-

resentatives. I am committed to a system of public education that provides every student with the opportunity to thrive academically and engage deeply in the study of government and constitutional principles.

The Lincoln High School Constitution Team's commitment to civic engagement gives me hope for the future of our country. I am proud to recognize their ongoing success and to celebrate their strong finish in the 2026 competition.

HONORING THE ROTARY CLUB OF WOODLAND

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions of the Rotary Club of Woodland, and to recognize their one hundred years of service to the Woodland community. This celebration honors the Rotary Club of Woodland's commitment to advancing service, leadership, and community investment.

The Rotary Club of Woodland was founded on April 29, 1926, by seventeen local Woodland community leaders, and officially chartered on July 9, 1926. The group now includes three active clubs, Rotary Club of Woodland, Woodland Sunrise Rotary Club, and Woodland Luna Vista Rotary Club. Rotary is a global network of neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who come together to create positive, lasting change in communities locally and around the world. The Rotary Club of Woodland is committed to "service above self," leadership development, and investing in projects that enhance the quality of life for our Woodland community.

Throughout its history, the Rotary Club of Woodland has played a vital role in supporting local initiatives, funding community improvements, and fostering leadership among its members. As the organization reaches its hundred-year milestone, it continues to build on its legacy through impactful projects and collaborative partnerships that strengthen the fabric of our Woodland community.

The Rotary Club of Woodland has played a foundational role in shaping the community through hands-on service, financial contributions, and long-term civic investment. Such service includes contributing thousands of volunteer hours to build and maintain community projects such as weekly Meals on Wheels delivery, monthly Rotary Readers, planting of trees within our community, and the Christmas Parade clean-up on Woodland's Main Street.

Mr. Speaker, we thank the Rotary Club of Woodland for its dedicated service to our community. The organization's contributions are undeniable and have made a lasting impact on the lives of many. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor them here today.

COMMEMORATING TAMPA BAY
DOWNS

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2026

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Tampa Bay Downs, in celebration of its 100th year of Thoroughbred Racing in the Tampa Bay area.

Tampa Bay Downs was built in Oldsmar, Florida, by Ransom Eli Olds, who created the Oldsmobile and developed the area of Oldsmar. Ownership passed to the West Coast Jockey Club, which opened the track and held its first race on February 18, 1926.

In the early days, Tampa Bay Downs faced economic hardship due to the Great Depression and World War II. During the war, the U.S. Army took over the track, which served as a jungle-warfare training facility for troops preparing to fight overseas. By the end of World War II, a renewed interest in Thoroughbred racing developed and Tampa Bay Downs underwent new ownership by Tampa attorneys Milo Vega and Frank Hobbs.

In the early 1950s, legendary sportswriters who frequented the area to cover baseball's spring training spent their days off at the racetrack. Renowned writer Grantland Rice began referring to the Downs as the Santa Anita of the South, a comparison taken with great pride in racing circles.

As the Tampa Bay region continued to grow, the racetrack produced two remarkable young female jockeys who trained and won their first races at the Downs. Diane Crump, from Oldsmar, was the first professional female jockey in America. She was the first woman to ride in a pari-mutuel race in 1969 and, a year later, the first female jockey to race in the Kentucky Derby. Julie Krone, who lived with her grandparents in New Port Richey while an apprentice jockey, went on to have over 3,700 career wins and be the first female jockey inducted into the prestigious National Museum of Horse Racing and Hall of Fame in Saratoga Springs, New York.

Under the present ownership of Stella Ferguson Thayer and her brother, Howell Ferguson, who took the reins in 1986, Tampa Bay Downs has become a steadfast institution in the Tampa Bay region with an ever-growing stakes schedule and a commitment to giving back to the community. Stewards uphold integrity and fair competition to provide transparency in decisions made during the racing events. Few embody that commitment more than Charlie Miranda, one of Tampa City Council's longest-serving members and a steward for more than four decades. Charlie Miranda has helped champion a family-friendly environment for guests of all ages for generations to come. The jockeys, trainers, and dedicated employees are the pillars that support the continued movement for thoroughbred racing to thrive in the Tampa Bay area.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Tampa Bay Downs for a century of contributions to the racing industry and for being a destination for neighbors and visitors alike. Tampa Bay Downs has grown from a humble racetrack into a century of tradition built on speed, champions and cherished memories.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL
DONALD K. "DK" CARPENTER

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2026

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the remarkable service of Major General Donald K. "DK" Carpenter, a native son of Illinois and a leader whose career exemplifies the very best of American military service.

General Carpenter's journey began in 1983 when he enlisted as a jet engine mechanic in the United States Navy. Answering our Nation's call with honor and dedication. After transitioning to the Illinois Air National Guard, he continued to serve with distinction, rising through the enlisted ranks to Master Sergeant before earning a commission as an officer, a testament to his leadership, perseverance, and commitment to excellence.

Throughout his career with the Illinois Air National Guard, including many impactful years with the 182nd Airlift Wing in Peoria, General Carpenter led Airmen in multiple deployments overseas, oversaw complex and critical maintenance operations, and helped strengthen vital partnerships with allied forces. His leadership elevated the readiness and capabilities of the units he served.

In June 2023, his exceptional service and skill were recognized when he was promoted to Major General and selected to lead logistics and sustainment for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Program, managing critical global operations that keep our Nation's most advanced fighter aircraft in the air.

From enlisted Airman to Major General, and from Peoria to the global stage, DK Carpenter's career embodies dedication, leadership, and the enduring spirit of the United States military. I thank him for his decades of selfless service to our Nation and to the people of Illinois, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his extraordinary legacy.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH
ANNIVERSARY OF CAMP LAKOTA

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2026

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD the following proclamation recognizing the 75th Anniversary of Camp Lakota:

Whereas, Camp Lakota, a Scouting America camp operated by the Black Swamp Area Council in Defiance County, Ohio, has faithfully served the youth and families of Northwestern Ohio since 1951; and

Whereas, for 75 years, Camp Lakota has provided a setting where young people develop leadership skills, build strong character, and form lifelong friendships through outdoor adventure and shared experience; and

Whereas, Camp Lakota has played a vital role in shaping generations of Scouts, instilling the values of service, responsibility, and community engagement; and

Whereas, the camp is located near the historic site of Fort Defiance, established by General Anthony Wayne prior to the Battle

of Fallen Timbers in 1794, connecting it to a vital chapter in our nation's early history; and

Whereas, Camp Lakota shares a proud connection to Neil Armstrong, an Eagle Scout who attended the camp and went on to become the first person to walk on the Moon, inspiring countless young people to pursue excellence and exploration; and

Whereas, the continued success of Camp Lakota is made possible by the dedication of its volunteers, leaders, and staff, including the exceptional service of longtime Ranger Patrick Bohn, whose more than 25 years of stewardship have preserved and strengthened the camp's legacy; and

Whereas, the traditions, natural beauty, and enduring spirit of Camp Lakota have created lasting memories and meaningful experiences for all who have attended, strengthening the fabric of communities throughout the region; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that I, Marcy Kaptur, Member of Congress representing Ohio's 9th Congressional District, do hereby recognize and honor Camp Lakota on the occasion of its 75th anniversary, and commend its enduring contributions to the development of young leaders and the betterment of our communities; and be it further resolved, that I extend my sincere congratulations and best wishes for continued success in the years ahead.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF
GRANT MALONE

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2026

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the distinguished career of Grant Malone, who is retiring in May after five exemplary years as President of the Rochester Building & Construction Trades' Council. In this role, he proudly represented more than 11,000 unionized construction workers and stood as a tireless advocate for working families. Grant is widely recognized as a towering figure in our construction community, bringing with him an additional 20 years of service as District Manager for the International Union of Operating Engineers.

Throughout his career, Grant has embodied the highest ideals of service, leadership, and dedication to community. His deep pride in Rochester's growth is reflected in contributions that have shaped both its physical landscape and its enduring spirit. From overseeing landmark projects, such as the Susan B. Anthony Bridge and the Louise Slaughter Train Station, to ensuring that progress created opportunity for the people of upstate New York, his leadership consistently placed community first.

A steadfast champion for local labor, Grant worked to protect local hiring requirements and expand apprenticeship programs that opened doors for young people pursuing meaningful careers in the skilled trades. Through his vision, the building trades became a pathway to long-term community strength, fostering economic opportunity and encouraging sustained investment across our region.

It is my great privilege to congratulate Grant Malone on his well-earned retirement and to wish him the very best in the next chapter of his life. His legacy will continue to shape our community for generations to come.