

HONORING THE CAREER OF MS.
SURABHI DABIR

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 4, 2026

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding career and public service of Ms. Surabhi Dabir, a respected policy leader and dedicated advocate for housing and community development across our Nation.

For more than three decades, Ms. Dabir has worked at the intersection of federal policy, community engagement, and economic opportunity, helping to shape programs that have strengthened rural, Tribal, and underserved communities.

From her leadership roles at the Housing Assistance Council and Enterprise Community Partners, to her service at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Housing Service, she has consistently translated complex policy into real results for families in need.

During her tenure at USDA, Ms. Dabir served as a trusted advisor to senior leadership and Members of Congress, helping to guide billions of dollars in housing and infrastructure investments, advance Farm Bill priorities, and expand access to affordable homeownership.

Her work has supported disaster recovery efforts, strengthened rural economies, and ensured that communities across the country have the tools to thrive.

Ms. Dabir has been invaluable to my office as well—twice. First as a USDA fellow and now in her current role as a Legislative Assistant, Ms. Dabir fought hard for rural services, and especially for colonias.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Ms. Dabir's commitment to service is grounded in family. She is supported by her husband, Dr. Jeremy Blum, and their sons, Arjun and Anand, who share in this moment of recognition.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Surabhi Dabir's career reflects a deep and enduring commitment to public service, innovation, and opportunity. Her impact will be felt for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF OUR
DISTRICT'S VITA VOLUNTEERS

HON. JASMINE CROCKETT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 4, 2026

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank the volunteers and organizations who have served the constituents of the 30th congressional district of Texas as VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) center volunteers over the last four years. The team of volunteers dedicated countless hours of studying to earn certification from the IRS Stakeholder Partnerships, Education and Communication (SPEC) office. Once certified, our volunteers provided free tax assistance to many underserved and low-income residents in Dallas. The over 1,600 families who were assisted saved thousands of dollars in tax preparation fees and received over \$1,033,363 in issued refunds. For their work and commit-

ment to community, I extend immense appreciation to Matthew Asiaban, Beth Byrum, Brend Casneiro, Karina Chavez, Kerry Goodwin, Michelle Jones, Yair Martinez, Elise Phillips, Robert Phillips, Mayra Pratz, Barbara Rogers, Paola Sanchez, Esther G. Smith, Maria Valenzuela, Michelle Valenzuela, Jim Wilson, Robert Williams, IRS/SPEC, Sharing Life, the Ferguson Road Initiative, LightChurch, and Lochwood Branch Library.

HONORING DANIELA RODRÍGUEZ
APONTE, 2026 CONGRESSIONAL
ART COMPETITION WINNER FOR
PUERTO RICO

HON. PABLO JOSÉ HERNÁNDEZ

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 4, 2026

Mr. HERNÁNDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievement of the winner of the 2026 Congressional Art Competition in Puerto Rico, a nationwide initiative that encourages high school students to explore art, innovation, and cultural expression.

This year, students were invited to reimagine our island through the creativity, storytelling, and design principles of video games. Among many talented participants, one student distinguished herself through originality, strong thematic relevance, and technical excellence.

I am proud to recognize Daniela Rodríguez Aponte, a 12th grade student at Escuela Especializada Central de Artes Visuales in San Juan, as this year's winner. Her piece, titled "Level Up: Borikén Dreams," is a digital illustration that portrays Puerto Rican youth immersed in a vibrant, arcade-like setting, engaging with a game that reflects their identity, environment, and aspirations. Through its composition and use of color, the work captures both imagination and cultural pride, offering a compelling interpretation of the competition's theme.

This artwork reflects not only technical excellence, but also a thoughtful message about how younger generations engage with culture, technology, and community. It is a clear demonstration of how art can serve as a powerful language to communicate ideas and inspire reflection.

Daniela's achievement is a testament to the creativity, discipline, and talent that distinguishes Puerto Rico's young artists. It also underscores the importance of arts education in fostering innovation and expression, and in strengthening the cultural fabric of our communities.

On behalf of the people of Puerto Rico, I extend my sincere congratulations to Daniela Rodríguez Aponte for this remarkable accomplishment. Her work represents the creativity, determination, and excellence that we strive to cultivate in all students.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 4, 2026

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained during the vote on S.

4465—To amend the FISA Amendments Act of 2008 to extend the authorities of title VII of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 155.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF CHARLES SCOTT

HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 4, 2026

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, it is my special privilege to recognize Charles Scott of Coldwater as the Veteran of the Month for May and to honor him for his dedicated service to our great Nation.

Charles served in the United States Army from 1979 to 1992, reaching the rank of Staff Sergeant. For his committed service, he was presented with numerous badges and awards, including the Army Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Overseas Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Driver and Mechanic Badge, Korean Defense Service Medal, and Army Achievement Medal.

After being honorably discharged, Charles earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Drury University and went on to work as a school supervisor. He then moved to Coldwater, where he served as a Veterans Service Officer for 22 years. During his time in the role, he received numerous awards, including the Certificate of Appreciation from the Branch County Veterans Board in 2008, the Veterans Service Officer of the Year Award in 2013, a Certificate of Appreciation for planning, designing, and managing the Branch County Veterans Memorial, Branch County's Patriotic Citizen of the Year Award in 2015, and the Special Tribute Award in 2025.

While Charles was specifically tasked with guiding Branch County veterans through the process of securing the benefits they have so rightfully earned, he also helped guide other veterans in surrounding communities to find the help they needed. Charles provided both expertise and compassion to thousands of veterans during his time as a Veterans Service Officer, ensuring that they received the care, benefits, and respect they deserved. While Charles has retired from the position, he continues to assist veterans wherever possible, including by recently organizing a veterans' program at the Branch County Fair.

Charles Scott's life of service, love of country, and keen desire to serve fellow veterans inspire us all. May others know of my high regard for Charles, as well as my deep gratitude for his lasting contributions to the country we love.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF SHERIFF DALE "FROG" FORD

HON. JAMES COMER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 4, 2026

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Sheriff Dale

"Frog" Ford, a devoted public servant, respected law enforcement officer, and cherished member of the Monroe County community.

Sheriff Ford dedicated his life to serving and protecting the people of his hometown. For forty-eight years he wore the badge with pride, integrity, and unwavering sense of duty. Over the course of his distinguished career, he served the citizens of Tompkinsville as Chief of Police for ten years and later as Sheriff of Monroe County for twelve years. In every role he held Sheriff Ford earned the trust and respect of those he served through his steady leadership, fairness, and deep commitment to his community.

I offer my sincerest condolences to his wife of twenty-one years, Ronda, and his children Kimberly, Chris, and Sean, and his stepchildren Shelby, and Alex, and his eight grandchildren. Sheriff Ford's service, courage, and leadership have set an example for future generations, of law enforcement officers. With his passing, Monroe County has lost a beloved and legendary figure who will not be forgotten.

HONORING MS. SHEYNA BURT FOR
HER LEADERSHIP IN THE ARTS

HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN
OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, May 4, 2026

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Ms. Sheyna Burt, an accomplished attorney, President of Youth Orchestras of Prince William, dedicated violinist, and most notably a community leader. It is my privilege to recognize her on the occasion of An Evening Above the Clouds, a celebration marking 16 years of uplifting our community through the Hylton Performing Arts Center.

More than 25 years ago, Ms. Burt began her musical journey as a student in the Prince William County Public Schools' strings program. What began as a childhood hobby grew into a lifelong passion and purpose. Today as President of the Youth Orchestras of Prince William and the Old Bridge Chamber Orchestra, she remains committed to sharing the arts and ensuring that generations to come have access to those same opportunities as she did.

Through her leadership both on stage and in public forums, she has helped shape a more inclusive and vibrant cultural landscape, expanded access to music education, and advocated for the importance of the arts.

Her work extends well beyond performance. Through her legal expertise, Ms. Burt has supported nonprofit organizations in advancing their missions.

Through her leadership with the Hylton Performing Arts Center as a board member, board chair, and now immediate past chair—she has helped to facilitate an environment where artists and audiences can connect, thrive, and be inspired.

For more than 25 years, Ms. Burt has made a lasting impact on our community through her vision, her advocacy, and her unwavering dedication to others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Burt, a true champion of the arts and a leader who will impact generations to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, May 4, 2026

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on April 30, 2026. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 155.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MR.
JIMMY CORNELIUS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, May 4, 2026

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary service and enduring legacy of Mr. Jimmy Cornelius, a distinguished American whose life reflects a deep and unwavering commitment to our nation and community.

Mr. Cornelius devoted more than 27 years to the United States Air Force, serving with honor in both Security Police and the legal field, and retiring as a Senior Master Sergeant. His military career was marked by leadership, excellence, and valor, supporting missions across the globe.

Following his service in uniform, he continued his dedication through nearly 17 years in civil service with the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, bringing his total to an exceptional 44 years of service to our country.

Beyond his professional achievements, Mr. Cornelius has made a profound impact on Randolph Field ISD, where he has served as a trustee since 2011, including multiple years as board president. His leadership has strengthened educational opportunities for military-connected students and families, ensuring they have the tools to succeed.

Mr. Cornelius' life is a testament to duty, integrity, and selfless service. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his remarkable contributions and wishing him the very best in his well-earned retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE EDISON NEW
JERSEY JUNIOR HIGH ROBOTICS
TEAM ACHIEVEMENT AT THE
GOVERNOR'S CUP

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, May 4, 2026

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the MakEMinds team, comprised of junior high school students from Edison, New Jersey as they celebrate finishing among the top teams in a highly competitive national field during the Governor's Cup robotics competition in Washington, D.C. It is my privilege to recognize this accomplished group of young leaders representing New Jersey's promising future of excellence in STEM.

The following students have all demonstrated strong leadership, initiative, and a passion for giving back to their community: Abhishek Shukla, Meer Patel, Ishan Atre,

Vismay Patel, Aarav Saresa, Darsh Shah, Madhav Karuba, Pravnav Devarapalli, Arya Vora, Saiganesh Yoganand, and Arnab Doshi. They have gone above and beyond dedicating time to community outreach to bring awareness to robotics and promote STEM education to younger students. I applaud the students for the outstanding performance thus far and extend my appreciation for shining a wonderful reflection of the State of New Jersey nationwide.

Soon, the team members of MakEMinds will participate in the World Championship event in Houston, Texas. I am confident that the students involved have bright futures ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in honoring the MakEMinds Edison Junior High team for their exceptional achievement at the Governor's cup.

HONORING THE CAREER OF CARON
NUNEZ

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, May 4, 2026

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Caron Nunez, who is retiring as the President of Lincoln Training Center in California.

The Lincoln Training Center (LTC) is a private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to creating successful employment partnerships between businesses and individuals with moderate to severe disabilities. Founded in 1964, the LTC traces its roots from a small group of parents providing their children with basic production training in Lincoln, California to an accredited, award-winning organization with satellite offices throughout Northern, Central, and Southern California.

For 35 years, Ms. Nunez has served as President of the LTC, leading the organization in fulfilling its core mission: transforming disabilities and disadvantages into opportunities for employment, independence, and community participation. With her efforts, the LTC supports hundreds of adults with disabilities and service-disabled Veterans across California in securing meaningful employment.

Under Ms. Nunez's leadership, the LTC experienced remarkable growth. Ms. Nunez helped create employment opportunities for more than 600 adults with disabilities throughout California and has expanded the Supported Employment program to include partnerships with over 100 businesses.

She was also instrumental in developing job training initiatives within the LTC's Production Services department, where participants gain hands-on experience through subcontract work such as assembly, packaging, shrink-wrapping, labeling, and heat sealing. In addition, she oversaw the development of one of the LTC's newest programs, which provides employment opportunities specifically for service-disabled Veterans.

Ms. Nunez's record of service has touched every corner of California, especially my district in the San Gabriel Valley. That is why in 2010, I was proud to honor Ms. Nunez and the LTC as my DiverCities Non-Profit of the Year. The LTC was recognized for fostering an inclusive community where individuals of all abilities can live and work side by side while gaining a deeper understanding of one another's experiences and cultures.