

CELEBRATING THE 81ST BIRTHDAY  
OF PATRICIA KEATING

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 2026*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on May 9, 2026, we will celebrate the 81st birthday of Patricia Lou Keating of Chicago, Illinois.

Ms. Keating was born on May 9, 1945, in Chicago to Marie and Louis Kalowski, as the younger sister to Carol Gregory.

Patricia has lived the American dream working to serve the community until her retirement earlier this year. She has raised three daughters; Karen Roder, Jackie MacHarg, and Heather Perez.

I am grateful for Patricia's service to the community and for sharing her grandson, Michael MacHarg, II, an invaluable contributor to our office.

I wish Patricia Keating a Happy Birthday, and best wishes for many more.

CONGRATULATING OWEN DALE ON  
HIS ACCEPTANCE TO THE  
UNITED STATES MILITARY  
ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

**HON. BRETT GUTHRIE**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 2026*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent and fellow Kentuckian, Owen Dale, upon his acceptance to the United States Military Academy at West Point. Nominating young people to our service academies is one of my greatest honors as a Member of Congress.

As a future West Point cadet, he will soon embark on a life-changing journey, joining the greatest fighting force on the face of the earth, the United States military.

Throughout the entire application process, Owen showed himself to be a talented and well-rounded candidate. I do not doubt that he will succeed in his future academic and military career.

As a graduate of West Point, I can confidently say that the years I spent in a service academy were among the most transformative of my life. I am confident that Owen's time at this incredible institution will be similarly impactful for him.

Guided by the Army's motto of "This We'll Defend," the coming years will challenge Owen to grow in character, strengthen his leadership, and commit to a life of service to our Nation.

Again, I congratulate Owen Dale on this impressive accomplishment. Our Commonwealth and the entire Nation thank him for his willingness to serve in uniform and wish him the best in this next chapter. Go Army.

RECOGNIZING BETH EL TEMPLE

**HON. SCOTT PERRY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 2026*

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Beth El Temple in Harrisburg on the auspicious occasion of its 100th Anniversary.

For the last century, Beth El Temple has been a thriving synagogue and a vital part of our local community. Located on the banks of the Susquehanna River, Beth El Temple has provided a home for Jewish families across Central Pennsylvania. From the first services, which welcomed the rising sun at the ark and watched it set at the doors to the Sanctuary by the river, the Temple has been a place where all are valued, and which the staff has continued to create a sense of community and belonging for anyone who visits.

Over the years, Beth El has significantly expanded its community outreach to a robust educational program, to include the Gersher Religious School, the Brenner Family Early Learning Center, and the PJ Library Program. Beth El also has a strong service and social action program, assisting and supporting service initiatives throughout the local community, and hosting food and essential service drives for the underprivileged.

On May 15 to 16, 2026, Beth El Temple will celebrate its 100th Anniversary at the Centennial Gala. Guest rabbis, community members, and others whose lives have been positively impacted by Beth El's presence and impact will join.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Beth El Temple and commend its 100th Anniversary and vibrant work. Beth El's impact on the local community, service initiatives, and welcoming environment continue to bring a light to our region and residents.

RECOGNIZING CENTRAL  
INSURANCE'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 2026*

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Central Insurance of Van Wert, Ohio, on the occasion of its 150th anniversary. This milestone is a testament to the company's enduring commitment to its policyholders, agents, employees, and the community it has proudly called home since its founding.

Formally incorporated in 1876 as Van Wert County Mutual Fire Insurance Company, Central Insurance started out as a small, community-based mutual insurer formed by neighbors to help neighbors share risk at a time when formal insurance was still emerging in rural America. Central's operations soon began to stretch beyond Van Wert County. By 1883, the company had become an interstate operation, and the name Van Wert County Mutual Fire Insurance Company was limited. In 1884, the name was changed to The Central Manufacturers' Mutual Insurance Company. By its 25th anniversary in 1901, the company had expanded operations into six states. As transportation transformed American life in the early

twentieth century, Central adapted its offerings to include automobile insurance. Its regional footprint expanded further in the following decades, with branch offices established in Boston, Atlanta, and Dallas. Today, Central Insurance serves hundreds of thousands of individuals and businesses across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Central Insurance on this extraordinary milestone. For 150 years, Central Insurance has exemplified the very best of American business and served with integrity and dedication. We wish Central Insurance all the best in their future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING HOLDEN  
SCHOEN ON HIS ACCEPTANCE TO  
THE UNITED STATES MILITARY  
ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

**HON. BRETT GUTHRIE**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 2026*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent and fellow Kentuckian, Holden Schoen, upon his acceptance to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

As a future West Point cadet, he will soon embark on a life-changing journey, joining the greatest fighting force on the face of the earth, the United States military.

Throughout the entire application process, Holden showed himself to be a talented and well-rounded candidate. I do not doubt that he will succeed in his future academic and military career.

As a graduate of West Point, I can confidently say that the years I spent in a service academy were among the most transformative of my life. I am confident that Holden's time at this incredible institution will be similarly impactful for him.

Guided by the Army's motto of "This We'll Defend," the coming years will challenge Holden to grow in character, strengthen his leadership, and commit to a life of service to our Nation.

Again, I congratulate Holden Schoen on this impressive accomplishment. Our Commonwealth and the entire Nation thank him for his willingness to serve in uniform and wish him the best in this next chapter. Go Army.

CELEBRATING UCLA WOMEN'S  
BASKETBALL FOR WINNING THE  
2026 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. TED LIEU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 2026*

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the women's basketball team from the University of California, Los Angeles, which took home the 2025 to 2026 NCAA Division One National Championship on April 6, 2026. UCLA defeated the women's basketball team from the University of South Carolina by a score of 79–51 to clinch the title in Phoenix, Arizona.

This year's championship is the program's 1st NCAA national championship and 126th

overall NCAA championship earned by a UCLA Bruins team in any sport. In 1978, UCLA Women's Basketball won the AIAW Division One/Large College tournament championship.

The team should be proud of their accomplishments, earning a number one rating in both the Associated Press and Coaches polls ranking women's basketball teams. UCLA women's basketball finished the season with an overall 37–1 record and a perfect 18–0 record, capturing the Big Ten conference championship. Led by coach Cori Close, the team built a strong core of student athletes who won week after week in games around the Nation and on the hallowed court at UCLA's Pauley Pavilion.

After being selected as the number two overall in the NCAA women's basketball tournament, the UCLA women went perfect, making it to the National Championship game against the South Carolina Gamecocks. UCLA dominated the Championship game in Phoenix, winning 79–51 and securing the title for themselves in dramatic fashion. This Championship was celebrated by the team and the greater UCLA community. To further highlight the accomplishments of this team, six senior players from the UCLA women's basketball team were selected in the 2026 Women's National Basketball Association draft, five in the first round, which is a WNBA record.

I would like to sincerely congratulate the UCLA women's basketball team once again on winning the national championship and wish them the best of luck next season. Their performance throughout this season was incredible and a tribute to the achievements of student athletes throughout the Nation. Go Bruins.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF KAREL ANN THARP

**HON. MIKE LEVIN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 2026*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Karel Ann Tharp (née Schubert), of Capistrano Beach, California, who passed away on November 2, 2025. In honor of her passing, I pay tribute to and reflect on the life she led and the impact she had on our Nation and community in California's 49th District.

Karel Ann Tharp is remembered for her vibrant spirit, kindness, fierce devotion to her friends and family, and her unwavering commitment to her community. Karel is survived by her devoted husband of 61 years, Edward Tharp III; their son, Edward Tharp IV and his wife, Amy; daughter, Laura Miles and her husband, Alan; and beloved grandson, Brian Tharp and his wife, Stephanie.

Karel attended Ganesh High School, where she was a dedicated student, spirited cheerleader, and member of the student government. After earning her degree from Cal Poly Pomona, she became a cornerstone of the administration office at La Paz Intermediate School. With 20 years of service, she is remembered by former students and faculty for her dedication, kindness, and work ethic.

Karel's passion for community and love for our country drew her to politics, where she be-

came a powerful force in local and national efforts to preserve our democracy. Through her mentorship, she shared her passion for civic duty with others and inspired countless young people to become politically engaged, creating a lasting impact on the community.

Karel is remembered for her radiant smile, legendary hospitality, and deep devotion to her friends and family. She nurtured meaningful relationships, maintaining many friendships for over 60 years. Whether with a new acquaintance or an old friend, Karel extended the same warmth and devotion to everyone she met. Karel cherished bringing people together over memorable meals at her dinner parties, creating lasting memories for all.

Karel's greatest joy was her family. She was a devoted mother and Nana. She understood the importance of showing up and did so enthusiastically. Karel was a constant fixture at every school event, sporting match, piano recital, and play. Karel is fondly remembered for being the loudest cheerleader in the stands for her grandson, Brian, supporting him at wrestling matches at San Clemente High School all the way to San Francisco State University.

Karel Ann Tharp exhibited a servant's heart and leaves behind a legacy of service, deep love, and commitment. She was a light to all who knew her and I share in the celebration of her life.

CONGRATULATING MILLA  
SANTAPAOLA ON HER ACCEPT-  
ANCE TO THE UNITED STATES  
NAVAL ACADEMY

**HON. BRETT GUTHRIE**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 2026*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent and fellow Kentuckian, Milla Santapaola, upon her acceptance to the United States Naval Academy. Nominating young people to our service academies is one of my greatest honors as a Member of Congress.

As a future midshipman, she will soon embark on a life-changing journey, joining the greatest fighting force on the face of the earth, the United States military.

Milla has shown herself to be an exemplary candidate, securing offers from not only the Naval Academy but also the U.S. Air Force Academy. Throughout the entire application process, she showed herself to be a talented and well-rounded candidate. I do not doubt that she will succeed in her future academic and military career.

As a graduate of West Point, I can confidently say that the years I spent in a service academy were among the most transformative of my life. I am confident that Milla's time in Annapolis will be similarly impactful for her.

Guided by the Navy and the U.S. Marine Corps' mottos of "Semper Fortis" and "Semper Fidelis," the coming years will challenge Milla to grow in character, strengthen her leadership, and commit to a life of service to our Nation.

Again, I congratulate Milla Santapaola on this impressive accomplishment. Our Commonwealth and the entire Nation thank her for her willingness to serve in uniform and wish her the best in this next chapter.

HONORING JUDGE HERBERT E.  
PHIPPS

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 2026*

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and pay tribute to Judge Herbert E. Phipps—a distinguished jurist, devoted public servant, proud Morehouse alumnus, as well as a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and a dear friend whose life exemplifies courage, service, and fidelity to the rule of law. The Dougherty County Bar Association honored Judge Phipps during their annual Law Day Celebration on May 6, 2026, in Albany, Georgia.

Judge Phipps' journey began in a small rural community in Baker County, Georgia, where family, faith, and hard work shaped his character. From those roots he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Morehouse College, a Juris Doctor from Case Western Reserve University School of Law, where he served as an editor of the Law Review, and a Master of Laws in the Judicial Process from the University of Virginia School of Law.

After law school he returned to Southwest Georgia to join the practice of the legendary civil-rights attorney C.B. King, learning that the practice of law is a moral calling and that courage is an indispensable trait for lawyers and judges. He practiced as a solo practitioner from 1983 to 1995, served eight years as a part-time magistrate and associate judge of the Dougherty County State Court, seven years as judge of the Dougherty County Juvenile Court, and was appointed by Governor Zell Miller to the Dougherty Circuit Superior Court in 1995. In July 1999, Governor Roy Barnes appointed him to the Court of Appeals of Georgia; he was elected statewide to three six-year terms, served as a presiding judge beginning in 2010, and as chief judge from July 2013 through June 2015. Judge Phipps retired from the Court of Appeals in 2016.

Judge Phipps' leadership extends far beyond the bench. He has served as past chairman of the Board of Directors of SB&T Bank of Albany and Americus; on the Board of Directors of the Georgia Applesseed Center for Law and Justice; as past president of the Lawyers Club of Atlanta and the Dougherty Circuit Bar Association; and on Georgia's Judicial Nominating Commission, the Georgia Supreme Court Commission on Racial and Ethnic Bias, and the Georgia Indigent Defense Council Advisory Committee. He is a member of Bethel A.M.E. Church (Albany), Sigma Pi Phi (Delta Delta Boulé), The Inquiry Club, and the Old War Horse Lawyers Club, and has led numerous civic organizations in Albany, including the Albany Advocacy Resource Center and the Albany Sickle Cell Foundation.

His service has been recognized with many honors: the Randolph Thrower Lifetime Achievement Award, the Chief Justice Thomas O. Marshall Professionalism Award, the Logan E. Bleckley Distinguished Service Award, the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association "Guardian of Justice Award," the Nestor Award from the Georgia Legal History Foundation, the Justice Robert Benham Award for Community Service, induction into the Society of Benchers of Case Western Reserve School of Law, the Case Western Reserve University School of