

HONORING THE LEGACY OF MAX  
RODRIGUEZ

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2026*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of Max Rodriguez, a devoted public servant, community leader, and lifelong resident of Madera, California, who passed away on April 24, 2026, at the age of 86.

Born on November 3, 1939, to Josephine and Maximo Rodriguez, Max was raised on Madera's east side, where he developed a lifelong commitment to service, hard work, and community. After graduating from Madera High School in 1958, he continued his education at Fresno City College and went on to proudly serve in the California Army National Guard.

Max's professional life reflected his values of dedication and leadership. He began as a farmworker before spending 25 years at the American Forest Products, also known as North Fork Sawmill, where he became the Financial Secretary and President of Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union Local 2762. Following the closure of the sawmill in 1985, he pursued a career as a Farmers Insurance agent, serving the Madera community until his retirement in 2008.

Max Rodriguez's public service was equally distinguished. First elected to the Madera County Board of Supervisors in 2004, he proudly represented District 4 for four consecutive terms, dedicating 16 years to improving the quality of life for the county's residents. During his tenure, he championed safe neighborhoods, quality schools, economic development, and public safety initiatives.

He played a pivotal role in organizing Fresno River clean-up efforts, expanding law enforcement coverage, and supporting infrastructure projects, including the high-speed rail and associated regional development. He also contributed to education and youth programs, supporting the construction of multiple schools within the Madera Unified School District and helping establish the John Wells Youth Center at Centennial Park.

Beyond the board of supervisors, he served on numerous boards and commissions, including the Madera County Transportation Commission, First 5 Madera County, LAFCO, and the San Joaquin River Conservancy, among others. His civic engagement extended to organizations such as the Pan-American Club, the Madera Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and the NAACP Branch 1084.

Max was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 59 years, Sarah Rodriguez; his parents; and his siblings, Connie Muñoz, Josephine Herrera, Victoria Contreras, Mary Helen Soto, Hope Rosales, Vera Olono, and Phillip Rodriguez. He is survived by his children, Barbara Dolan (John), Karen Scrivner (Gary), and Mark Rodriguez; as well as his grandchildren, Davis Pogue, and Juliana Pogue.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Max Rodriguez for his decades of service and enduring impact on the Madera Community. May his life continue to inspire public servants and citizens alike.

RECOGNIZING FIRE INSPECTOR/  
FIREFIGHTER CRAIG DAVIDE

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2026*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions of Crystal River Fire Department Fire Inspector/Firefighter Craig Davide for his exceptional professionalism, loyalty, and unwavering dedication to public safety. Fire Inspector/Firefighter Davide has consistently demonstrated a level of commitment and integrity that reflects great credit upon himself and the department. He is an invaluable asset to the Crystal River Fire Department, and his service extends well beyond the expectations of his role. In addition to his emergency response responsibilities, Fire Inspector Davide plays a critical role in the department's fire inspection program. Through his diligence and attention to detail, he helps ensure the safety of the community by identifying potential hazards and working proactively to mitigate risks before they become emergencies. His efforts reflect a strong sense of responsibility and a deep commitment to protecting the citizens he serves.

Alongside his inspection duties, Fire Inspector Davide is a dependable and skilled volunteer firefighter who carries out his responsibilities with courage, professionalism, and integrity. He is always willing to step up when needed, consistently supporting both his fellow firefighters and department leadership in times of need. He is also known for his willingness to assist with station projects and operational needs, often going above and beyond his assigned duties. His initiative, teamwork, and strong work ethic make him a trusted and valued member of the department.

Fire Inspector/Firefighter Davide's contributions have a meaningful and lasting impact both within the department and throughout the Crystal River community. His dedication, professionalism, and service-minded approach exemplify the very best qualities of a first responder.

I commend Fire Inspector/Firefighter Craig Davide for his outstanding service to the residents of Florida's 12th Congressional District and proudly recognize him as a 2026 First Responder of the Year. His commitment and professionalism embody the highest ideals of public service.

CELEBRATING THE 2026 DEERFIELD BEACH HOUSING AUTHORITY, WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE LEADERSHIP AWARDS

**HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2026*

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate and honor the incredible achievements of women who are shaping our communities, empowering future generations and leading with grace, courage, and determination. It is a privilege to recognize inspiring women receiving the 2026 Deerfield Beach Housing Authority, Women of Excellence Leadership Award Luncheon.

This celebration is not just about acknowledging individual accomplishments, but it is also about highlighting the collective strength and transformative influence women have in every sector of society. From family leaders to trailblazers in business, education, public service, and beyond, women continue to break barriers and inspire change with remarkable resilience and dedication.

A special thank you to the host of the event, LaTonya Coley-McKenly, the Executive Director of the Deerfield Beach Housing Authority. Her vision, leadership, and commitment to community development made this celebration possible.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the honorees being recognized at this year's Women of Excellence Leadership Awards Luncheon and I include in the RECORD their names:

Averi Ruggiero, Melissa Tague, Rev. Dr. Magaret Blake, Valerie Hackett, Lindy Harvey, and Eileen Manniste.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF LOUISE LAMBERT HARRIS

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2026*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Mrs. Louise Lambert Harris, who passed away on May 6, 2026, at the age of 88.

Born in Mobile, Alabama, Mrs. Harris attended St. Genevieve of the Pines and later Florida State University. In 1959, she married USAF Colonel Carlyle S. "Smitty" Harris, beginning a remarkable partnership marked by faith, resilience, and devotion.

When Colonel Harris was shot down and held as a prisoner of war in Vietnam for nearly eight years, Mrs. Harris courageously raised their three children while supporting POW families and navigating military bureaucracy on their behalf. Her strength and determination sustained her family through one of the most difficult periods of the Vietnam War.

After returning to Tupelo, Mississippi, Mrs. Harris attended nursing school at Itawamba Community College and served as an oncology nurse at North Mississippi Medical Center. She was also a dedicated community leader and played a key role in founding Sanctuary Hospice House, helping establish one of the Nation's first freestanding hospice facilities.

Mrs. Harris is survived by her children, Robin Harris Waldrip and her husband, Ken, Carolyn Harris Cole and her husband, Chris, and Carlyle "Lyle" Smith Harris, Jr. and his wife, Cindy; her grandchildren, Reid Waldrip and his wife, Kaylee, Lauren Waldrip Zuelzke and her husband, Jim, Camie Cole, Carrie Anne Cole, USAF Captain Thomas Harris and his wife, Peyton, Blake Harris and his wife, Ali, and Jack Harris; and her great-grandchildren, Sam and Maggie Waldrip, Mary Lyle and Bo Zuelzke, and Hazel Blake and Carlyle Smith Harris, III.

Mrs. Harris leaves behind a lasting legacy of compassion, service, and perseverance that will continue to inspire all who knew her. We are deeply grateful for her extraordinary life and service.

RECOGNIZING FIREFIGHTER  
JOSEPH BUSCEMI

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2026*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions of Hernando County Fire Rescue Firefighter Joseph Buscemi, whose service exemplifies duty, honor, and an unwavering commitment to those he serves. Firefighter Buscemi has made a significant and lasting impact on the department through consistent performance, sound judgment, and exceptional professionalism across a wide range of emergency incidents. He demonstrates superior ability under pressure and embodies the very qualities expected of a top-tier line firefighter. He is widely described by his peers as a firefighter of integrity, resilience, and deep responsibility toward both the department and the community. In the most challenging and high-stress situations, Firefighter Buscemi remains calm, levelheaded, and focused, ensuring the best possible outcomes for those in his care.

Throughout his service, Firefighter Buscemi has consistently demonstrated leadership, discipline, and sound judgment. He leads by example, sets a high standard for those around him, and routinely goes above and beyond the call of duty. His commitment to excellence is evident not only in emergency response, but in his daily approach to training, teamwork, and service. This recognition reflects not only his technical skill, but also his character and steadfast dedication to protecting life and property in Hernando County. He represents the very best of Hernando County Fire Rescue and the fire service as a whole.

I commend Firefighter Joseph Buscemi for his exceptional service and proudly recognize him as the 2026 First Responder of the Year for Florida's 12th Congressional District. His professionalism, courage, and commitment to excellence embody the highest ideals of public service.

HONORING THE HUNTER'S CREEK  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION FOR  
THEIR 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2026*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Hunter's Creek Community Association. The Association has faithfully served the residents of Hunter's Creek for four decades, establishing itself as a cornerstone of community governance and neighborhood excellence since its founding in 1986.

The Association has successfully managed and maintained common areas, amenities, and infrastructure of one of Central Florida's premier large-scale residential communities, enhancing property values and the quality of life for many thousands of residents. Through dedicated volunteer leadership and professional management, the Hunter's Creek Community Association has fostered a strong sense of community pride and belonging, with neighborly cooperation from its diverse membership.

The Hunter's Creek Community Association has also demonstrated fiscal responsibility and sound governance practices throughout its 40-year history, ensuring long-term community sustainability and financial health, while maintaining reasonable assessments.

Additionally, the Association has served as a model for other homeowner associations through its innovative programs, community events, and its commitment to transparent communication with its members. The Association has successfully balanced the preservation of the community's initial vision and character with thoughtful adaptation to accommodate changing demographics, technologies, and resident needs, and has significantly contributed to the broader area through its partnerships with local government, participation in regional planning efforts, and its role as a responsible steward of the area's natural resources.

The commitment of countless board members, committee volunteers, staff members, and engaged residents over a 40-year span has established a legacy of community service that continues to benefit both current and future generations of Hunter's Creek.

CELEBRATING DON BOTT'S EX-  
TRAORDINARY CAREER IN EDU-  
CATION

**HON. JOSH HARDER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2026*

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the extraordinary career of Mr. Don Bott as he retires after 41 years of dedicated service as an educator in Stockton, California.

For more than four decades, Mr. Bott has shaped the lives of countless students through his unwavering commitment to education, mentorship, and personal growth. He spent over 30 years teaching English and journalism at Stagg High School, where he inspired generations of young people with a deep appreciation for literature, writing, critical thinking, and lifelong learning. His classroom was more than a place of instruction—it was a place where students were challenged to discover their voices, build confidence, and strive toward their full potential.

In addition to his work in the classroom, Mr. Bott served for 27 years as advisor to the nationally recognized and award-winning Stagg Line newspaper. Under his leadership, student journalists developed not only exceptional writing and reporting skills, but also the confidence and discipline necessary to succeed in college, careers, and civic life. Through journalism, Mr. Bott empowered students to tell meaningful stories, pursue truth, and engage thoughtfully with the world around them.

Throughout his career, Mr. Bott became known not only as an exceptional educator, but as a mentor whose influence extended far beyond graduation. Former students regularly returned to his classroom to share their experiences and offer guidance to younger students—a testament to the lasting impact of his mentorship and the strong community he cultivated over the years. Thousands of students benefitted from his encouragement, compassion, and belief in their ability to succeed.

In the final years of his career, Mr. Bott continued his service to Stockton Unified School District as a teacher's coach, helping support and mentor fellow educators so that future generations of students could continue to receive the highest quality education. His leadership and experience strengthened not only individual classrooms, but the broader educational community across Stockton.

Mr. Bott's legacy is one of service, excellence, and unwavering advocacy for students. He has been a champion for the art of writing, a passionate advocate for reading and journalism, and a transformational figure in public education. His awards and honors include: San Joaquin County Teacher of the Year, National Scholastic Press Association Pioneer, and Journalism Education Association Medal of Merit. His impact on Stockton will continue to be felt for generations through the students, teachers, and community members whose lives he touched.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Don Bott for his remarkable 41-year career and to congratulate him on his well-earned retirement. The people of Stockton and the entire Central Valley are deeply grateful for his decades of dedication and service.

RECOGNIZING EMS PROVIDER  
CAMERON EAMES

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2026*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions of EMS Provider Cameron Eames for his exceptional leadership, clinical excellence, and unwavering commitment to patient care. Paramedic Eames has been a valued member of MedFleet since November 13, 2023, and during that time he has consistently demonstrated a level of professionalism and performance that reflects great credit upon himself and the organization. He began his service as a Critical Care Paramedic, where he quickly distinguished himself as a highly skilled and dependable clinician, delivering advanced patient care with precision, confidence, and sound clinical judgment.

Now serving as a Field Supervisor and Critical Care Paramedic, Paramedic Eames plays a vital role in supporting system-wide operations, mentoring field crews, and maintaining the highest standards of care across the organization. His leadership is evident not only in his clinical-expertise, but also in his ability to guide, support, and elevate those around him. Known for his steady presence in high-pressure situations, Paramedic Eames consistently demonstrates strong decision-making, professionalism, and composure when it matters most. He leads by example, ensuring that patients receive exceptional care while fostering a culture of accountability and continuous improvement within the EMS system.

Respected by his peers, Paramedic Eames embodies the values of dedication, integrity, and service. His commitment to excellence strengthens both his team and the broader emergency medical services community. I commend Paramedic Cameron Eames for his outstanding service to the residents of Florida's 12th Congressional District and proudly