

roadways of countywide importance, including County Line Road, Chambers Road, Hilltop Road, and RidgeGate Parkway. He also championed bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure improvements, including the grade-separated trail overpasses along the C-470 Trail in Highlands Ranch and Lone Tree, improving both safety and quality of life for families throughout the region.

Art was widely respected as a trusted advisor, consensus builder, skilled communicator, advocate for transportation funding, and mentor to many both personally and professionally. His work will continue benefiting Colorado families and communities for generations to come.

In recognition of his enduring contributions and legacy of service, a portion of U.S. Highway 85 from Mile Marker 198 through Mile Marker 201 is being dedicated as the "Art Griffith Memorial Highway." This designation serves as a lasting tribute not only to Art's contributions to transportation infrastructure and public service, but also as a reminder of the profound difference one dedicated public servant can make in the lives of countless others.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Art was also an extraordinary athlete. He earned numerous national swimming titles, competed as a member of the USA National Team, and was inducted into the University of Minnesota Hall of Fame for his achievements in the pool. Yet despite these remarkable accomplishments, those closest to him will remember him most for his humility, gentle spirit, dry sense of humor, integrity, and the genuine care he showed toward everyone he met.

Art Griffith lived a life grounded in faith, family, service, and love. He leaves behind a legacy of treasured relationships and an example of quiet strength and grace that will continue to inspire all who had the privilege of knowing him.

My prayers are with Laurie, his children and grandchildren, and all of Art's family and friends during this difficult time. Colorado is stronger, safer, and better because Art Griffith called it home, and his legacy will endure for generations.

May he rest in eternal peace.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF ETHEL LARSON PEGELOW

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2026

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th birthday of Ethel Larson Pegelow. Born on February 23, 1926, Ethel has called the great state of Minnesota home since she was first married in 1947.

Before starting her life in Minnesota, Ethel worked as a riveter and buckner on B-17 airplanes at the Boeing B-17 assembly plant in Seattle, Washington. On the 5,000th B-17 built since the Pearl Harbor attack, Ethel got to sign her name on the belly of the plane. She has lived through history, and one can only imagine the stories she can tell.

Ethel is blessed beyond measure with four children, twelve grandchildren, and sixteen great grandchildren. Her cup overflows. To

this day, Ethel loves playing cards, hosting family gatherings, baking, and visiting Arizona in the winter. After 100 years, Ethel still lives an incredibly active life. Her enthusiasm for life should inspire us all.

There is no doubt that Ethel is a rock for her entire family. Her strength, wisdom, and grace have served her well in these last 100 years and will continue to for many more.

Turning 100 is no small feat. This historic milestone is one to celebrate, and it is my honor to extend our heartfelt congratulations from the U.S. House of Representatives. Jacquie and I pray that God will continue to richly bless her and her family with good health, peace, and joy.

RECOGNIZING LONDON UTHKE

HON. BRAD FINSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2026

Mr. FINSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Paralympic gold medalist and southern Minnesota native, Landon Uthke, on his remarkable performance at the 2026 Paralympic Winter Games in Milano Cortina, Italy.

Landon made his Paralympic debut as a Defenseman on the USA Sled Hockey Team, helping Team USA secure their fifth consecutive gold medal in a 6-2 win over Canada.

At three years old, Landon had his left leg amputated following a lawnmower accident. Growing up in Albert Lea, Landon started playing sled hockey at seven years old and went on to play for both the Rochester Mustangs and Minnesota Wild sled hockey teams.

Landon's hard work has truly paid off, and his determination is inspiring to all of us at home in southern Minnesota. I congratulate Landon on his 2026 Paralympic debut. His family, friends, teammates, and fellow southern Minnesotans could not be prouder of him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2026

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, on May 13, 2026, I was not recorded on Roll Call votes No. 165, No. 166 and No. 167.

Had I been present, I would have voted NO on Roll Call No. 165 and YEA on Roll Call No. 166 and No. 167.

CONGRATULATING GARLAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR RECEIVING THE H-E-B TEXAS DISTRICT OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. LANCE GOODEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2026

Mr. GOODEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Garland Independent School District (ISD) on being named the 2026 H-E-B

Texas District of the Year, one of the highest honors in public education. Garland ISD will also receive a \$100,000 award presented at the H-E-B Excellence in Education ceremony. The H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards represent the largest educator recognition program of its kind in the Nation, having awarded nearly \$15 million in cash and grants to teachers, principals, counselors, and school districts since 2002.

Since its founding in 1901 with just 130 students, Garland ISD has grown to serve over 51,000 students across 67 campuses in Garland, Rowlett, and Sachse. The district offers an extraordinary range of academic pathways, including a STEM elementary campus, collegiate preparatory campus, career and technical education center, prekindergarten program, and the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program. Garland ISD was selected from among five large school district finalists statewide through a rigorous process involving interviews and site visits by educators, community leaders, and past recipients.

I congratulate every teacher, administrator, aide, staff member, student, and parent across Garland ISD on this incredible achievement that only one district in the Lone Star state receives each year.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN AMINNDA SCHULTZ

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2026

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pasco County Fire Rescue Captain Aminnda Schultz for her exceptional leadership, compassion, and unwavering dedication to public service.

Captain Schultz is a shining example of pride, ownership, and wholehearted commitment within the fire service. Her leadership is felt not only by those who work alongside her, but also throughout the community she serves. She consistently leads with compassion, humility, and a genuine commitment to lifting others up—qualities that define the very best of public safety professionals.

Over the past year, Captain Schultz has been nominated multiple times for departmental recognition, each reflecting her willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty. Whether representing Pasco County Fire Rescue through her service with the Honor Guard, volunteering countless hours at Safety Town, supporting the Benevolent Association, or engaging with the community at public events, she consistently places others before herself. Her positivity, generosity, and steadfast dedication to her fellow firefighters are evident in everything she does.

Captain Schultz leads by example, fostering a culture of professionalism, teamwork, and service that strengthens both her department and the broader community. These qualities reflect not only her commitment to excellence in the fire service, but also her character and her deep sense of responsibility to those she serves. She embodies the spirit of service, honor, and dedication that this recognition is intended to celebrate.

I commend Captain Aminnda Schultz for her outstanding service to the residents of Florida's 12th Congressional District and proudly

recognize her as the 2026 First Responder of the Year. Her leadership, compassion, and commitment to others make her truly deserving of this honor.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COLTS NECK COMMUNITY CHURCH

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2026

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Colts Neck Community Church (CNCC), a vibrant non-denominational Christian community in my central New Jersey congressional district, which will celebrate, 50 years of faith-filled fellowship on May 17, 2026, and worship in their church on Merchants Way.

The church's history is notably defined by grassroots beginnings, compassionate volunteerism, ministry expansion—within and beyond Colts Neck—and steadfast humility and service in the image and likeness of Jesus Christ. This community pillar is a powerful beacon, with dedicated Christians working tirelessly to serve and bless Colts Neck, New Jersey, and the world.

Founded by Don and Alma Stewart in the early 1970s, this vigorous home-based mission quickly outgrew the Stewart house and soon began to worship in nearby churches in Eatontown, Freehold, and Aberdeen. Immersed in scripture readings, inspiring music and Bible study, the congregants also wished, worked and prayed for a new physical structure to call their spiritual home.

Their prayers were answered and their work paid off, as they ultimately purchased a 7.5-acre plot of land in the heart of Colts Neck. Under the inspiration and leadership of their first full-time pastor, Reverend John Lindsey, the construction was completed and dedicated in less than four months.

Thanks in no small part to volunteer labor from congregants and neighboring churches, as well as assistance from Fort Monmouth chaplains and contributions from local residents, the CNCC at last had its own worship sanctuary, in which they could preach, praise God, spend time in fellowship and grow as a community. And grow, they did.

In the 1980s and 1990s, Colts Neck Community Church, led by Pastor Darwin Bacon, expanded in attendance, membership, finances, and ministry scope. The church strengthened its community with fellowship meals and services. It also enhanced its mission works and outreach by establishing a church in Howell, New Jersey, supporting foreign missions with volunteer work and financial assistance, and initiating local ministries, like prison outreach and English as a Second Language (ESL) programs.

After years of dedicated service to CNCC, Pastor Bacon became a full-time missionary, and Dr. Philip J. Swanson then took the helm. Under Dr. Swanson's leadership, the church emphasized a vision of "Back to the Basics—Into the Future," focusing on foundational ministries while preparing for future growth. This period saw the addition of a parsonage on church property and the Fellowship Hall, which houses a number of special events and programs.

In 2005, then-pastor George Russ reemphasized local outreach, which enabled it to strengthen its service in Colts Neck. The church established day-long leadership conferences for local high school students, financial seminars during the economic downturn of 2007 to 2008, fundraisers for the Fire Department and EMT services, and participation in community events, such as Colts Neck Day.

The church also inspired its youth to serve the community's elderly with home-improvement volunteer work. In fact, in 2006, the CNCC became the first church in the Northeast to host its first of many World Changers programs. At World Changers, hundreds of teenagers and their sponsors come together every year to mow lawns, repair roofs, install wheelchair ramps and more in the local communities of Neptune and Freehold, New Jersey.

Also in 2006, Pastor Chris Durkin, today's current pastor, was tapped to lead the congregation. With hundreds of member families, the church, under Pastor Durkin, continues its strong dedication to meeting the needs of the greater community. Members continue to provide fun, Bible-based summer activities for children through their Vacation Bible School program, fall festival and their well-attended Christmastime living nativity. Additionally, they help support those dealing with loss by facilitating the Griefshare program.

Similarly, CNCC members participate in disaster relief and serve local non-profits, such as Jersey Shore Rescue Mission and Solutions Pregnancy Center, showing true Christian love and providing critical support to those in need.

Over the years, CNCC has continued to build upon the vision and commitment of its predecessors—sharing the Gospel with more people and expanding the reach of its ministries and services. Their powerful combination of faith and good works knows no bounds.

On this joyous occasion of the CNCC's Golden Jubilee anniversary, I am honored to congratulate church leader, Pastor Chris Durkin and his wife, Melissa; my good friend and congregation President, the remarkably effective Glen Dalakian and his wonderful wife, Cyndi; and all the leaders and members of the Colts Neck Community Church.

My wife, Marie, and I thank them for their Christ-inspired love and service for our community, and we pray that the church continues to grow, thrive and attend to the good people of Colts Neck and Monmouth County, New Jersey for generations to come.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SACRIFICE OF FIRST RESPONDER WENDY BOLDEN

HON. THOMAS R. SUOZZI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2026

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on National Peace Officers' Memorial Day, to honor first responder Wendy Bolden, who gave her life in the line of duty on May 15, 2014. Wendy Bolden gave everything to her community while serving as a 911 dispatcher. Wendy truly enjoyed helping everyone in her community. It was her true passion. She worked hard to make sure everyone felt safe and cared for.

Wendy Bolden was a devoted wife to Keith Bolden and a dedicated mother to her three children. Her beloved daughter was 22 when she passed, and her precious sons were only 13 and 9. For over a decade, Wendy's family has carried the memory of her service and suffered the weight of her loss. Her children remember her as a baseball team mom whose personality would bring a smile to the face of anyone she encountered. Wendy had a great sense of humor and could make everyone laugh. She always brought loved ones together during the holidays. She is remembered as someone who welcomed others into her home. Her co-workers expressed the same at her funeral.

During Police Week, as we remember our heroes and heroines, our officers who risk their lives, who leave their beautiful families behind while fighting to protect ours, let us not forget first responders like Wendy, whose sacrifices are too often unseen. American families sleep safely, knowing that no matter what happens, first responders are just a 3-button phone call away. They are the first line of defense against fires, natural disasters, accidents, crimes, and even terrorist attacks. Today, let us honor our firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, and 911 dispatchers. Though we can never repay them, let us pause, bow our heads, and thank them for their bravery and sacrifice.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SACRIFICE OF SAINT PAUL POLICE OFFICER FELICIA D. REILLY

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2026

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and service of Saint Paul Police Officer Felicia D. Reilly, who died in March 2025 after she sustained life-altering injuries in the line of duty in 2010.

It was an honor to meet with the family of Officer Reilly and a delegation from the Saint Paul Police Department today as they shared stories of her passion, courage, and empathy throughout her 17 years of service with the SPPD. After beginning her law enforcement career as the first female civilian jailer in Dakota County, she went on to serve the City of Saint Paul with assignments in Central District, Vice Unit, and the East Side District.

Officer Reilly's daughter and husband shared her determination to make sure that women officers could embrace the strengths they brought to the job. She brought resourcefulness, integrity, and compassion to her service on the force. Felicia took on challenging details because that is where she could make the most difference for her community.

On March 24, 2010, Officer Reilly responded to a 911 call involving a domestic threat. During the response, she was violently assaulted and sustained severe head injuries while arresting the individual. The traumatic brain injury she suffered led to serious lasting health complications, forcing her retirement.

Felicia D. Reilly passed away from her injuries on March 1, 2025, and her name has now been added to the National Law Enforcement Memorial. This is to recognize the ultimate