

Dr. Ozuna has also proudly served as an intern in my office, where she has supported community members and assisted with numerous community events throughout the Bronx. Her dedication to uplifting others, connecting families with resources, and serving her community reflects the very best of public service.

Her dedication to service is rooted in her Dominican heritage and inspired by her family legacy, including efforts connected to her father's middle school in the Dominican Republic, which expanded access to affordable education for local children.

As one of nine children, Dr. Ozuna carries forward the values of resilience, responsibility, and family. Our Bronx community is stronger because of her leadership, generosity, and example.

Today, we proudly celebrate Dr. Maria Ozuna and thank her for a lifetime of service and inspiration.

HONORING MARY RICH

**HON. CHELLIE PINGREE**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2026*

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the leadership of Mary Rich as the Deputy Chief of New Gloucester Rescue. Across more than 32 years of dedicated public service, Mary has played a vital role in the success of the department and the safety of New Gloucester residents.

Mary began her career as an Advanced Emergency Medical Technician, rising over time to Deputy Chief. She has overseen tremendous change during her tenure—including the merging of the Fire and Rescue Departments, the launch of a new ambulance transport service, and the expansion of per diem staffing to provide 24/7 EMS coverage. The growth of the department would not have been possible without Mary's steadfast determination and tireless advocacy on behalf of the Rescue team and broader New Gloucester community.

In 2025, she was honored with the New Gloucester Chief's Award of Emergency Medical Services for her leadership, and her family has proudly carried on her legacy of public service. Her daughter Molly Fitzgerald and her son-in-law Hale Fitzgerald have also served on the Rescue team. Mary's years of contributions to the department have left New Gloucester a safer community, better equipped to respond to and prevent emergencies.

I commend Mary for an outstanding career dedicated to protecting public safety. I wish her the best of luck in her next chapter.

HONORING EDDIE HART

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2026*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today alongside my colleague, Representative MARK DESAULNIER, to recognize Eddie Hart as he is inducted into the Bay Area Sports Hall of Fame.

Born in Martinez, California and raised in Pittsburg, California, Eddie is known as the "World's Fastest Human." He started his track and field career at Contra Costa College, winning state titles in the 100- and 200-yard events. He went on to earn NCAA titles for the 100-yard dash and 4 x 110-yard relay while competing at UC Berkeley. He was ranked one of the top sprinters in the Nation between 1970 to 1979.

Eddie went on to compete in the 1972 Munich Olympic Games. During the U.S. Olympic Trials, he tied the world record for the 100-meter race with a run time of 9.9 seconds. He ran the anchoring leg in the American 4 x 100-meter relay team, earning a gold medal and helping the United States to set the world record in the race. In 1989, Eddie set the Masters world record in the 100-meter race, holding that record for 14 years.

Eddie has also demonstrated his commitment to serving youth in our community. In 2003, he co-founded the Eddie Hart All in One Foundation with his wife, Gwen, and son, Eddie, Jr., to empower disadvantaged youth through music, sports, and education. He was recognized as a Hometown Hero by the City of Pittsburg in 2024 for his incredible impact in the community.

Our community takes great pride in honoring Eddie's legacy of service and athletic excellence. Please join us in recognizing Eddie Hart upon his induction to the Bay Area Sports Hall of Fame.

RECOGNIZING SHERIFF ASA BUCK

**HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2026*

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor someone whom I deeply admire and respect and am lucky enough to call friend, Sheriff Asa Buck, who will retire on June 1, 2026, after more than 25 years of devoted service to Carteret County.

Asa was born and raised in Carteret County, graduating from East Carteret High School before earning his bachelor's in criminal justice from East Carolina University. After completing his BLET program, Asa joined the Sheriff's Office in 1999 and because of his dedication and exemplary work ethic, quickly worked his way up the ranks. In 2006, after campaigning and knocking on over 5000 doors to introduce himself to the people, he was elected to his first term as Sheriff. The citizens of Carteret County have rewarded him for his hard work, re-electing him multiple times as he has diligently served the community for over 19 years.

In his role as Sheriff, Asa has made the safety of the people of Carteret County his top priority. He focused much of his time on the opioid and drug crisis that has ravaged so many North Carolina communities. He played a pivotal role in launching Carteret's "Pills can kill," a drug take back program, and M.E.D.S., a medication education program on safe storage and disposal. These anti-addiction and collection programs served as a model for other counties across the state. Additionally, under his leadership, Carteret County now tops the state in arresting and prosecuting drug dealers for death by distribution. His

tough stance on illegal drugs has saved countless lives.

Asa's commitment to his community has been rewarded with more responsibilities. He was elected to serve as the President and Chairman of the North Carolina Sheriffs' Association, selected for the Governor's Task Force for Mental Health and Substance Use, and was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine for his contributions to his community. The Order of the Long Leaf Pine is the highest civilian honor in the state of North Carolina. As Asa looks to future opportunities to serve, I know that Asa's friendly demeanor and servant leadership will be greatly missed by the county and the communities he served.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the amazing work Sheriff Asa Buck has done and wishing him the best of luck in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING JULIET SZYMANSKI FOR A LIFE DEDICATED TO FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

**HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2026*

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Juliet Szymanski for a lifetime of service, devotion, and civic engagement. She is an example to all of what it means to live the American Dream and to dedicate one's life to building up those around you.

When Juliet's daughter, Stephanie, was diagnosed with Lyme disease at a young age, Juliet ensured that her family met that challenge head-on—not only through treatment and support for her daughter, but through a commitment to helping countless others facing the same struggle.

Juliet has been a steadfast advocate in the fight against Lyme disease, working tirelessly to increase public awareness and leading efforts in prevention, treatment, and research advocacy. Her compassion and determination have helped shine a light on an illness that impacts families across Western New York and our Nation.

In addition to her advocacy work, Juliet has been a dedicated member of the Erie County Republican Committee, serving for nearly 20 years as a committeewoman and supporting countless candidates, campaigns, and elected officials. Her commitment to public service and civic participation has strengthened her community and inspired others to get involved. Since 2008, she has served as Secretary to Erie County Board of Elections Commissioner Ralph Mohr and has been a tireless public servant administering elections across Erie County.

For 250 years, the United States of America has thrived because of the freedom, self-determination, and civic participation enshrined in our democratic values. Our representative democracy depends upon citizens willing to serve their neighbors and invest in their communities. Juliet Szymanski's life—devoted to her family, her work, and her community—embodies those values in action.

We all have a responsibility to leave our communities better than we found them, and Juliet has done exactly that. I know that her

husband, Ken, and daughters, Natalie and Stephanie, along with her son-in-law, Dominic, are very proud of her many accomplishments.

I am proud to join the Erie County Federation of Republican Women in recognizing Juliet Szymanski for her significant contributions to Western New York. I ask that this body join me in honoring an all-American mother, advocate, and community leader—Juliet Szymanski.

HONORING DEPUTY CHIEF AARON JOHNSON

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2026*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Deputy Chief Aaron Johnson, in recognition of his twenty-nine years of extraordinary service for our Rohnert Park law enforcement community.

Deputy Chief Aaron Johnson was born in San Mateo, California and grew up in Forestville. He earned all associate's degree from Coastline Community College, a bachelor's degree from Union Institute and University, and a master's degree from the University of San Diego. Deputy Chief Johnson was certified by the Robert Pressley Institute of Criminal investigation, and he received certification as a Fire Chief by the California State Fire Marshall. In addition, he is a graduate of the Sherman Block Leadership Institute and the California Peace Officers Standard of Training Command College.

Deputy Chief Johnson has received many recognitions from Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for leading the agency for multiple years in arresting impaired drivers. Also, in 2014 when he was a Sergeant, he was awarded the state Traffic Safety Excellence Award by the Office of Traffic Safety for securing almost \$750,000 in grant funding for his team where they reduced injury collisions in Rohnert Park to an all-time low.

Currently, Deputy Chief Johnson serves as the State Director of the Law Enforcement Torch Run, Chair of the Santa Rosa Junior College Fire Technology Advisory Committee, member of California Police Chiefs Association, member of the Sonoma County Fire Chiefs Association, member of the international Association of Chiefs of Police, and the current instructor for the Windsor Public Safety Training Center. Deputy Chief Johnson is on the Board of Directors for Special Olympics Northern California and the Executive Committee Member For Special Olympics Northern California. He also served as the past Vice President of Rohnert Park Cal Ripken Baseball and the past Vice President of Rancho Cotate Lacrosse Club.

Deputy Chief Johnson has also served our community as a member of Calvary Chapel Petaluma where he serves on ministry teams. He volunteered with Baja Vision Ministries to build houses in Mexico, and with Greater Vision Uganda Ministry to help fund a school in a Ugandan village. Johnson volunteers with Cotati Rohnert Park Education Foundation, local Rohnert Park Rotary Clubs, Rancho Cotate High School Athletic Boosters, and Lawrence Jones Middle School Expeditionary Learning Program. Deputy Chief Johnson also

coached soccer, basketball, baseball, and lacrosse in Rohnert Park.

Deputy Chief Johnson married his wife of twenty-six years, Brenda, in 1999. They are blessed with three children named Austin, Abigail, and Avery, along with their dog, Lucky.

Mr. Speaker, Deputy Chief Aaron Johnson has dedicated his career to protecting Rohnert Park, California, and our community. He has transformed the lives of those around him through his service and mentorship to others. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF STEVIE CUPPS, A DEVOTED HARBOR SPRINGS RAMS SUPPORTER

**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2026*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Stevie Cupps, a devoted member of the Harbor Springs community whose presence embodied the very spirit of hometown pride.

For years, Stevie Cupps was a staple inside the Harbor Springs High School gymnasium. To the residents of Harbor Springs, Stevie was more than a fan, he was a fixture of the community. His bright smile and contagious energy always generated a buzz around Rams basketball. Winning or losing, Stevie could always be found courtside.

His love for Harbor Springs High School athletics was not casual; it was steadfast and informed. Stevie knew the players, the schedules, the matchups, and most importantly, how to bring people together through that shared passion. Whether it was recapping a game, celebrating a player's performance, or simply enjoying the camaraderie of a packed gym, his energy and enthusiasm was contagious.

Stevie found joy in life's simplest moments, like his long-awaited arrival of a Harbor Springs sweatshirt, reflecting his genuine appreciation for the people and traditions of his beloved community. Though his seat behind the home bench may sit empty, his impact will not. His legacy lives on in the generations of players, fans, and community members who were fortunate enough to know him.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Michigan's 1st District, I extend my deepest condolences to the entire Cupps family. Stevie Cupps will be dearly missed, but I have no doubt that he is still cheering for the Rams from Heaven—we all know he would never miss a game.

HONORING AND RECOGNIZING W. HARVEY AND KAREN YODER ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MICHAEL GUEST**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2026*

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize W. Harvey and Karen Yoder on the joyous occasion of their 50th

wedding anniversary, which they will celebrate on June 12, 2026. Their lives together stand as a remarkable testimony of faith, family, service, hard work, and commitment to their community.

Harvey's family moved from Michigan to Mississippi in July of 1972, while Karen's family relocated from Oklahoma to Mississippi in May of 1973. The two first met in the summer of 1973 at Harvey's parents' home, when their families gathered together for Sunday lunch. Their friendship blossomed into a courtship in 1974, and they were united in marriage on June 12, 1976.

Throughout their marriage, Harvey and Karen have remained deeply rooted in their faith and church community. They attended Mashulaville Indian Mennonite Chapel in Mashulaville, Mississippi, later renamed Noxubee Mennonite Church. In May of 1976, just weeks before their wedding, the congregation moved to its current location near Macon, Mississippi, where it would later become known as Cornerstone Community Church.

In 1975, Harvey founded Macon Cabinet Co., Inc., a custom cabinet business that became well known throughout the community for quality craftsmanship and dedicated service. Karen faithfully managed the office operations while also caring for their growing family. In recognition of his outstanding business leadership and contribution to the local economy, Harvey was honored with the Noxubee County Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award in 2001. Later that year, he closed the business and began working at New Horne Hardware, where he faithfully served until his retirement.

In addition to his work in business, Harvey answered a call to ministry in 2000 and began preaching at Nanih Waiya Indian Mennonite Church in Preston, Mississippi. Harvey and Karen faithfully served there in a ministry capacity until 2012. Since 2013, they have attended Way of the Cross Chapel.

Karen devoted many years to homeschooling their children and investing in their education and spiritual upbringing. After their youngest child graduated in 2008, Karen and their youngest son, Jeremy, entered nursing school together. Karen graduated in December 2011 and passed her nursing board in 2012, fulfilling her lifelong dream of becoming a Registered Nurse.

Together, Harvey and Karen have built a loving legacy through their family. They are the proud parents of four children: Matthew, Ruth, Justin, and Jeremy. They have been blessed with eighteen grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, whose lives continue to reflect the faith, love, and values instilled by Harvey and Karen throughout the years.

As Harvey and Karen celebrate fifty years of marriage, we recognize not only the enduring strength of their union, but also their example of service to God, devotion to family, and commitment to their community.

Their story is one that brings pride to our state and reminds us all of the lasting impact that faithful families have on our communities.

May they be blessed with many more years of joy, health, and cherished memories together, and may their example continue to inspire the people of Mississippi for generations to come.