

not only to the National Museum of Asian Art, but also to other cultural institutions throughout their future careers.

This pipeline of diverse, intelligent, and passionate talent in the museum and curatorial space is essential and will assuredly lead to collections that present a more complete history for all to enjoy and learn from.

Dr. Cheng's contributions have helped ensure that AANHPI history is preserved, curated, and presented with humanity and dignity. During this AANHPI Heritage Month, I congratulate him, the National Museum of Asian Art, and all of the students who have benefited from this program.

RECOGNIZING DEACON EMERITUS  
CHARLES AUGUSTUS WOOD OF  
SUTTON BRANCH BAPTIST  
CHURCH

**HON. RALPH NORMAN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2026*

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Charles Augustus Wood, a man of exceptional character and an outstanding leader from Kershaw County, South Carolina.

Charles has spent his life in South Carolina and has become a central part of both his community and, notably, of Sutton Branch Baptist Church.

Charles grew up farming in South Carolina and attending Sutton Baptist Church in Lugoff. He attended Wood's School and later went on to graduate as third in his class from Jackson High School in 1954. Just a few years later, he married his beautiful wife, Gladys, in 1959. It was after hearing a sermon at Sutton Branch Baptist Church that Charles first felt a calling to give his life to Christ, a calling that he followed at the age of 24 when he was baptized.

Charles immersed himself in his church community, ushering, assisting community members in getting to church on Sundays, teaching Sunday school, serving as Sunday school superintendent, and filling various other roles wherever he was needed. He immersed himself in every part of Church life, including in the men's choir, and in Christian education conventions to broaden his understanding of God's word.

He was one of the first trustees initiated at Sutton Branch Baptist Church, and helped to establish a burial committee at the Church. In 1977, Charles was invited to serve as an armor bearer for pastors and to minister to the congregation as a deacon at Sutton Baptist. He was soon after ordained deacon in January of 1977. What an honor.

Since that time, Charles has worked tirelessly to counsel numerous individuals, to celebrate births and baptisms, to visit the sick, lead church administration, make visits to hospitals, mentor church youth, and so much more. He has constantly been a force for joy and a pillar of wisdom, acting as a confidant to any who might need it, and an aid to pastors as he served as a deacon.

Charles went on to become Vice Chairman of the Deacon Board, and later on Chairman. He has faithfully watched over multiple generations at Sutton Baptist, and throughout his time at Sutton, has been a constant devoted witness to Christ.

In both 1971 and 1972, Charles was recognized with the Man of the Year Award, and was presented with a plaque for outstanding service to Sutton Baptist in 1996. He was again honored with a Certificate of Appreciation in 2023. In 2024, Deacon Charles was recognized as the Oldest Living Active Member of Sutton Baptist.

His accomplishments are outstanding. Deacon Charles will be resigning as Chairman of the Deacon Board and as deacon on May 31, 2026. He has been, and always will be, an invaluable part of the Church and community which he has so faithfully served. His life of mentorship, faithfulness, and true servitude will never be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING RAMAT SHALOM  
BETH ISRAEL ON ITS 50TH ANNI-  
VERSARY

**HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2026*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ramat Shalom Beth Israel (RSBI) on its 50th anniversary.

Founded in Plantation, Florida in 1976 in what began as a small Jewish discussion group meeting in members' homes, Ramat Shalom, now known as Ramat Shalom Beth Israel, has evolved into a prominent and respected synagogue that provides a place of inclusivity and a sense of belonging.

Under the leadership of Rabbi Andrew Jacobs, and his wife Rabbi Cheryl Jacobs, RSBI is an LGBTQ Safe Zone and weaves learning seamlessly into worship and holiday celebrations, deepening both understanding and spiritual experience.

The members of RSBI take the responsibility of Tikkun Olam, or healing the world, to heart. Through Ramat Cares, they volunteer to feed the hungry, house the homeless, shelter abused animals, clean our beaches and bring smiles to children who have lost everything. They are a thoughtful and compassionate group who perform various good deeds throughout the community—from hand-knitting healing shawls, baby blankets, and bonnets to baking challahs and cooking chicken soup for those who need some healing.

Rabbi Andrew's leadership extends well beyond the synagogue's walls. He is deeply involved in interfaith and community partnerships throughout South Florida, building relationships rooted in mutual respect, shared values, and civic responsibility. Rabbi Andrew has repeatedly stood alongside me and our interfaith community whenever and wherever we have gathered to speak out against the scourges of racism, bigotry, and antisemitism.

As Ramat Shalom celebrates this Jubilee year, I join in celebrating their commitment to compassion, inclusivity, and lifelong Jewish learning.

On behalf of my constituents, I congratulate the "Rabbis Jacobs" and am proud to call them my dear friends. Mazel Tov to the entire congregation of Ramat Shalom Beth Israel on 50 years of service and community leadership. May the next 50 years continue to be filled with the Jewish values of Tikkun Olam and L'dor V'dor, lighting the way for future generations.

HONORING U.S. AIR FORCE  
VETERAN BRUCE E. ABARE

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2026*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Air Force veteran Bruce E. Abare.

Bruce E. Abare was born on May 16, 1951, in Glens Falls, New York, to his parents, Edward and Anna Abare. He graduated in 1970 from South Glens Falls High School and was raised in the close-knit communities of the greater Glens Falls and Moreau area that he would continue to serve throughout his life.

Bruce entered the United States Air Force on February 24, 1971. He trained as an Airplane Maintenance Specialist and was assigned to the 307th Organizational Maintenance Squadron (SAC), and later the 438th Military Airlift Wing (MAW). His service took him to Vietnam, and he was also stationed at U-Tapao Air Base in Thailand, where he reenlisted for his second tour of duty. Bruce was honorably discharged on March 29, 1978, at the rank of Sergeant.

For his dedicated service, he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Air Force Longevity Service Award, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Air Force Good Conduct Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Following his military service, Bruce was married to his wife, Sandra, for 32 years. Together they raised five children. Bruce was a longtime member of the Fortsville Methodist Church and worked for the Town of Moreau in their Department of Public Works until his retirement. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and going camping.

After serving our country, Bruce returned home to serve his community through his work with the Town of Moreau. His life reflected quiet dedication, service, and commitment to family and others. On behalf of New York, I am honored to recognize Vietnam-era Air Force Veteran Sergeant Bruce E. Abare.

RECOGNIZING BRIS AVROHOM DAY  
OF UNITY AND TRUST

**HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2026*

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bris Avrohom Day of Unity and Trust, which celebrates the organization's enduring mission of religious freedom, remembrance, and unity. Bris Avrohom, inspired by the Lubavitcher Rebbe, has spent more than forty-seven years helping immigrants integrate into American society while strengthening Jewish religious, humanitarian, and educational life.

A Sefer Torah was written in Jerusalem, Israel, to unite everyone touched by Bris Avrohom with the partners whose support sustains acts of kindness, faith, and perseverance. In solidarity with Bris Avrohom, we remember the Holocaust, when the Nazi regime murdered six million Jews and countless other innocent victims, and we stand together against antisemitism and hatred in all forms.

We also recall the tragic events of October 7, 2023, when Hamas committed a horrific terrorist attack against the Jewish people of Israel, marking the deadliest day for the Jewish community since the Holocaust.

Today, we honor the mission of Bris Avrohom, reaffirm our commitment to religious freedom, remembrance, and unity, and dedicate the Sefer Torah as a living symbol of faith and resilience.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating Bris Avrohom Day of Unity and Trust and recognizing our Nation's role as a beacon of religious freedom and tolerance.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF COMMANDER ROBERT  
"BOBBY" RAMIREZ, III

**HON. JIMMY GOMEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2026*

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Robert "Bobby" Ramirez, III. A devoted husband to Anne Ramirez and loving father of four children, Commander Ramirez exemplified a life of courage, duty, and steadfast commitment to his family, his fellow service members, and his Nation. In June 2022, he was promoted to the rank of Commander and entrusted with the leadership of SEAL Team ONE, a position reflecting the immense confidence placed in his character, experience, and distinguished record of service within the Naval Special Warfare community.

Commander Ramirez dedicated 27 years of honorable service to the United States Navy, having enlisted in 1996 and earned his commission in 2004. Throughout a remarkable military career marked by valor and sacrifice, he served in combat across three theaters of war and was awarded three Combat Action Ribbons and five Bronze Star Medals, including two bearing the "V" device for acts of heroism in combat. Though his passing came only one month after assuming command at Naval Base Coronado, his legacy endures in the lives he led, the fellow servicemembers he inspired, and the Nation he served with honor and distinction. May we remember Commander Ramirez not only for his extraordinary achievements, but also with compassion, gratitude, and reverence for the burdens carried by those who dedicate their lives to the service of others.

RECOGNIZING THE EMERGENCY  
MEDICAL SERVICE PROFESSIONALS OF MEDFLEET IN  
HONOR OF NATIONAL EMS WEEK

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2026*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National EMS Week and to

honor the extraordinary emergency medical professionals of MedFleet for their exceptional service to the residents of Pasco, Hernando, and Citrus Counties and communities throughout the Tampa Bay region. Every day, the dedicated paramedics, EMTs, dispatchers, nurses, and support personnel of MedFleet answer the call when lives are on the line. Whether responding to medical emergencies, transporting critically ill patients, supporting hospitals and healthcare facilities, or assisting during times of crisis and natural disaster, these professionals deliver compassionate, high-quality patient care with remarkable skill and professionalism.

Across Florida's Nature Coast and the broader Tampa Bay area, MedFleet has earned a reputation for excellence through its unwavering commitment to patient-centered care, rapid emergency response, and clinical professionalism. Their teams routinely operate under intense pressure and in unpredictable circumstances, yet they continue to demonstrate extraordinary composure, expertise, and compassion for those they serve. The work performed by MedFleet personnel often represents the critical link between emergency scenes and lifesaving medical treatment. Their efforts save lives, comfort families during moments of fear and uncertainty, and strengthen the overall health and safety of our communities. From emergency response and inter-facility transport to disaster preparedness and coordinated healthcare support, MedFleet personnel play an indispensable role in our regional healthcare system. During National EMS Week, we are reminded that behind every ambulance response is a team of highly trained professionals willing to place the wellbeing of others ahead of their own comfort and safety. Their dedication reflects the very best of public service and embodies the values of compassion, courage, and selflessness.

I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our sincere gratitude to the men and women of MedFleet and all emergency medical service professionals serving Florida's Tampa Bay region. Their tireless efforts, clinical excellence, and steadfast commitment to caring for others deserve our deepest appreciation and recognition. May God bless the dedicated professionals of MedFleet and all EMS personnel who faithfully serve our communities each and every day.

RECOGNIZING HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, GRAND TRAVERSE REGION ON 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO NORTHERN MICHIGAN

**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2026*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and to recognize Habitat for Humanity, Grand Traverse Region (Habitat-GTR), as they celebrate 40 years of dedicated service to strengthening communities throughout Northern Michigan.

For decades, Habitat-GTR has worked to build more than just homes. Through offering affordable housing, financial education, and services to families in need, they have created countless opportunities for hardworking families in Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, and Leelanau Counties. As an independent affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, every donation made locally remains in the community, providing direct benefits for the families of Northern Michigan. Their work reflects the values that define our region: hard work and neighbors helping neighbors.

Habitat-GTR homeowners are not simply given free homes. Rather, they earn the opportunity for homeownership through financial responsibility and sweat equity. Each family that participates must complete an extensive financial and homeownership education, demonstrate a history of stable employment, and contribute hundreds of hours towards the construction of their home. As a result, these new homeowners become even more invested in their community, create lasting stability for future generations, and achieve long-term financial independence and security.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Habitat for Humanity, Grand Traverse Region for their continued service to Northern Michigan. On behalf of Michigan's 1st Congressional District, I thank them for their tireless efforts and wish them continued success in the years ahead.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the Congressional Record on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 2026 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.