

Virginia Center for Innovative Technology, which facilitated public-private collaboration and integration;

Appalachian College of Pharmacy, which played a key role in preparing and ensuring the safe dispensing of the prescription medications delivered by drone (including adjunct associate professor of pharmacy, Dr. Shamly Abdelfattah); and

Jack Kennedy, Clerk of the Wise County Circuit Court, who was instrumental in pioneering and championing the concept of using drones for rural medical delivery in the Appalachian region.

Other Notable Partners: Shely Mullins, Sr. Fairgrounds; Lonesome Pine Airport manager, Jarrod Powers; RX Partnership executive director Amy Yarcich; Ryan Media Lab chief executive officer Mark A. Ryan and partner Kyle Mark Ryan; and Wise County UAS event coordinator, Andrianah Kilgore.

At that time, delivering medical supplies to rural sites like the RAM Wise County clinic event often required extensive hours of travel that could take hours or days of travel across rugged, mountainous terrain. But on that historic day, a drone carried the same supplies in just minutes—safely and efficiently delivering pharmaceuticals and medical supplies to patients.

This was more than a demonstration of technical prowess—it was a transformative moment for underserved communities. It showed how cutting-edge innovation could eliminate barriers to health care, reduce delays in treatment, and save lives in areas long overlooked by traditional infrastructure.

The implications extended far beyond Southwest Virginia. This mission laid the groundwork for nationwide drone delivery applications and inspired regulatory advancements by the FAA. It served as a springboard for companies to explore widespread drone delivery as a viable, scalable solution.

Mr. Speaker, as we reflect on the 10th anniversary of this historic achievement, we honor all those who made it possible. Their collective vision, determination, and compassion gave rise to a new frontier of health care access, born in the mountains of Central Appalachian Virginia but felt across the globe.

The first FAA-approved drone delivery was not merely a feat of aviation—it was a profound act of compassion. It marked a turning point in how we approach health care access for those living in rural communities. For areas long burdened by limited infrastructure and geographic barriers, this moment offered something far greater than innovation—it delivered dignity and hope. It was, in every sense, the “Kitty Hawk moment” for the drone delivery industry and the future of rural health care delivery.

RECOGNIZING MS. KIMBERLY DAY-SCANLON, OKALOOSA COUNTY SCHOOLS 2027 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JIMMY PATRONIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 16, 2026

Mr. PATRONIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Kimberly Day-Scanlon as the Okaloosa County Teacher of the Year. For

several years, Ms. Day-Scanlon has served Kenwood Elementary School with talent, passion, and an unwavering commitment to a quality education. In Northwest Florida, we are fortunate to have some of the best teachers in the Nation. It is recognized that the teaching profession is one of the most difficult yet rewarding professions in existence. Ms. Day-Scanlon has performed her teaching duties exceptionally, while also being an active and supportive member of her community.

Ms. Day-Scanlon's outreach extends far beyond the walls of her classroom through her active involvement in her school and community. Kimberly is currently a full-time teacher in Okaloosa County. She has taught students of all ages across various school settings for the last three decades. Kimberly also works with preservice teachers and as a mentor for new classroom teachers. She holds a BS in Special Education (College of Saint Rose) and a MS in Inclusive Education (Nazareth College). Kimberly is certified in Elementary Education, Exceptional Student Education (K–12), and is endorsed in Gifted, ESOL, Reading, and Autism Spectrum Disorders. For all of her admirable contributions to our community, I'm truly proud to have Ms. Day-Scanlon as a constituent in Florida's 1st Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Ms. Kimberly Day-Scanlon for her many accomplishments, and her commitment to excellence, professionalism, innovation and collaboration in the Okaloosa County School District. I thank her for her service, and wish her all the best for her continued success.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF SUSAN KAMAS

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 16, 2026

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I proudly recognize Susan Kamas for her remarkable career and decades of service to the people of Central Texas. After fifty years in the workforce development field, including thirty-seven years leading Workforce Solutions of Central Texas, Susan retired in February 2025, leaving behind a legacy of visionary leadership and community impact.

Under her direction, Workforce Solutions of Central Texas became a statewide and national model for excellence in connecting job seekers, employers, and educators. Managing a \$45 million annual budget, Susan built partnerships that strengthened the regional economy and expanded opportunities across Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills, and San Saba counties. Her leadership also positioned the organization as a vital resource for veterans and military families in the Fort Hood (formerly Fort Cavazos) community.

Susan's influence extended well beyond Central Texas. She served as Co-Chair of the U.S. Department of Labor Enterprise Council, a founding member of the Coalition of State Workforce Associations, and an active member of organizations such as the Association of the United States Army and Rotary Club of Belton.

Her lifelong dedication has inspired initiatives such as the Susan Kamas Endowed

Scholarship at Temple College, ensuring her legacy continues to benefit future generations.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I thank Susan Kamas for her extraordinary leadership, commitment to service, and lasting contributions to the Central Texas community.

CELEBRATING CELESTE MADDEN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 16, 2026

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Celeste Madden as she celebrates her 100th birthday.

The daughter of Vincenzo and Elena Cicora, Celeste was raised in Brockton, Massachusetts, alongside her siblings Anthony and Anne. After graduating from Brockton High School in 1944, Celeste worked in a dress shop and as a teacher's aide, and a few years later married Timothy Madden. Together, they raised their four daughters, Elena, Marie, Teresa, and Cathy, and retired to Falmouth in 1986. Over the years, Celeste enjoyed gardening, doing yardwork, and travelling the country with her husband in their camper.

Today, Celeste enjoys doing crossword puzzles, reading, watching historical programs, for which she is grateful for the closed captioning on her tv, and spending time with her 9 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. On January 17, 2026, Celeste will celebrate her 100th birthday.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Celeste Madden, and I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating a century well lived and wishing Celeste many more years of health and happiness.

HONORING SHERRIF DARRIN MITCHELL

HON. TONY GONZALES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 16, 2026

Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished public servant, veteran, and law enforcement leader—Sheriff Darrin Mitchell—whose decades of service to our Nation and to the people of Texas exemplify duty, courage, and integrity.

Darrin Mitchell began his service to the United States in January of 1985 when he enlisted in the United States Army as a Parachute Rigger. His first assignment placed him among some of our Nation's most elite warriors, serving with the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne). Initially stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, he continued his service when the unit relocated to Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, during this period he supported critical missions and deployed in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm from 1990 to 1991—two of the most consequential military operations of the modern era. His work ensured that America's airborne forces remained supplied, prepared, and mission-ready in the harshest conditions.

After receiving an honorable separation from the Army in 1994, Darrin Mitchell continued his commitment to public service by pursuing a career in law enforcement. He attended and graduated from the Permian Basin Regional Police Academy in 1995 and that same year joined the Winkler County Sheriff's Office, where he served with dedication until 2002. His call to serve then brought him to the Department of Homeland Security's Transportation Security Administration. From 2002 to 2009, he served as a Master Behavioral Detection Officer—one of TSA's most specialized roles—helping safeguard the traveling public in the years following the 9/11 attacks.

In 2009, he returned to the Winkler County Sheriff's Office, first as a Correctional Officer, then as a Patrol Deputy in 2010. His leadership, professionalism, and investigative skill led to his promotion as Chief Investigator in 2012. When the sitting Sheriff retired in 2016, Darrin Mitchell stepped forward once again, running for office and earning the trust of the community he had served for so many years. He was elected Sheriff of Winkler County and has since continued to protect and lead with distinction.

Mr. Speaker, Sheriff Darrin Mitchell represents the highest ideals of service—first in uniform defending our Nation, and later in law enforcement safeguarding his community. Today, we honor his enduring commitment and his exemplary career of service to Texas and the United States.

HONORING THE MINISTRY OF
PASTOR DAN WOOLDRIDGE

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 16, 2026

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pastor Dan Wooldridge as he retires after more than five decades of faithful ministry. Since 1972, Pastor Wooldridge has pastored churches across Texas, offering spiritual guidance, leadership, and unwavering dedication to his calling.

A graduate of Howard Payne University, Pastor Wooldridge has spent his life sharing his faith, not only in Central Texas, but around the world. His evangelism and missionary ef-

forts have reached South America, Cuba, Romania, Southeast Asia, and the United Kingdom, reflecting a heart for service and a passion for spreading God's Word.

At Crestview Baptist Church in Georgetown, he helped expand the church's ministry through initiatives like Crestview Camp, local outreach, and strengthened partnerships with the Williamson Baptist Association. His impact extended beyond the church walls—serving on the Board of Partners for Education, driving school buses, and supporting student athletics. Pastor Wooldridge has lived out Christ's words: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

He and his wife Shannon have raised three children, and together they have been a steadfast example of faith, family, and service to the community.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I commend Pastor Dan Wooldridge for fifty-three years of remarkable ministry. His legacy is one of compassion, conviction, and commitment to others. I wish him and Shannon continued joy and purpose in the years ahead.