

Dr. Estes founded the Institute for Health & Aging at UCSF and served as Chair of the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Nursing. A pioneering scholar in the political economy of aging and critical gerontology, she has dedicated her career to advancing the health, dignity, and economic security of older Americans, particularly older women, through rigorous research and fearless public advocacy.

The breadth of Dr. Estes' leadership in the field is extraordinary. She served as an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine, President of the Gerontological Society of America, the American Society on Aging, and the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education. She chaired the Board of Directors of the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, and she has counseled U.S. Commissioners of Social Security and Congressional committees on aging across several decades. Her counsel is grounded in both scholarly rigor and deep moral commitment to our community. Dr. Estes has never hesitated when asked to present on the importance of protecting Social Security and Medicare in Congressional Town Halls in both San Francisco and Sonoma Counties.

Inspired by the late Maggie Kuhn and the Gray Panthers movement, Dr. Estes has always understood that scholarship must be put in service of justice. Her landmark 1979 work, *The Aging Enterprise*, illuminated how economic forces and the needs of older Americans intersect to shape the policies that are meant to serve them. Her foundational insights helped establish the political economy of aging as a serious field of inquiry. Her more than two dozen books and numerous journal articles have shaped national discourse on Social Security, Medicare, long-term care, and health equity, making her one of the rare scholars whose ideas have directly influenced the laws that millions of Americans depend upon. In recognition of these extraordinary contributions, Dr. Estes has received UCSF's highest honor, the University of California Medal, along with distinguished awards from major academic and public health associations. Now, she continues to lead by example, inspiring new generations of scholar-advocates to do the same.

Dr. Estes has shared that her proudest accomplishment is raising an amazing daughter, Duskie Estes, an accomplished chef and devoted mother, and her son-in-law chef John Stewart. Together, Duskie and John have raised two extraordinary young women, Brydie and Kenzie Stewart.

Mr. Speaker, California and the Nation are fortunate to have had Carroll Estes as a champion for older Americans. Her enduring legacy in both academia and public policy reflects the very best of what American scholarship and public service can achieve. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

RECOGNIZING EUGENE "GENE" SMITH ON HIS 102ND BIRTHDAY

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2026

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Eugene "Gene" Smith of Germfask, Michigan, as he celebrates his 102nd birthday.

Born in Utica, Michigan, on June 7, 1924, Gene came to Germfask as an infant and has spent more than a century building a legacy of service, hard work, and dedication to his community. After losing both of his parents while still in elementary school, Gene was raised by his uncle, John Losey, and developed the resilience and character that would later serve him well.

In February 1943, Gene was drafted into the United States Army Air Forces, serving as a Sergeant and cook in England during D-Day and later in France. Following his service, he returned home and worked for twenty-nine years with the Schoolcraft County Road Commission before spending another twenty years as a heavy equipment operator and mechanic.

For more than five decades, Gene has been a pillar of the Manistique and Germfask communities. Since 1969, he has served as a member, Postmaster, and Chaplain of Lakeside Lodge No. 371, while holding numerous leadership positions throughout Masonic organizations across the Upper Peninsula. He is also a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), a past VFW commander, and a faithful member of the Germfask Methodist Church.

Many residents recognize Gene's familiar face in regional Independence Day parades, where he has spent decades driving his beloved "Little Indy" Shriners parade car. In recognition of his lifelong service, he was awarded a special proclamation signed by local officials and Governor Gretchen Whitmer.

Mr. Speaker, let us all join in recognizing Eugene "Gene" Smith on this remarkable milestone and thank him for a lifetime of service to his country, community, and fellow citizens.

RECOGNIZING THE SONGWRITERS OF JASON ALDEAN'S "TRY THAT IN A SMALL TOWN"

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2026

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the songwriters of Jason Aldean's hit song "Try That in a Small Town." Neil Thrasher, Kurt Allison, Tully Kennedy, and Kelley Lovelace created a song that deeply resonated with millions of Americans, highlighting the all-American spirit of patriotism and resilience found in small town USA.

When "Try That in a Small Town" was released in 2023, the song made waves across the country, eventually reaching No. 1 on the all-genre Billboard Hot 100 chart and No. 1 on the Billboard Hot Country Songs chart. At a moment when division and hate seemed to dominate discourse, this song sparked conversations about American patriotism when we

need it most. Thrasher, Allison, Kennedy, and Lovelace used their storytelling talents to bring people together across generations.

Beyond the success of this single song, Neil Thrasher, Kurt Allison, Tully Kennedy, and Kelley Lovelace have each built careers that have left a true mark on modern country music. Their music has climbed charts and become an integral part of the all-American way of life. More importantly, each of them brings a deep appreciation for honest storytelling that captures the voices and values of our great Nation.

Together, these four songwriters embody the heart of American patriotism. Their collaboration on "Try That in a Small Town" reflects the same integrity and passion that define this country. Their songwriting embodies what country music does best—tell the truth about who rural communities are and what we stand for.

HONORING ZACHERY WEEKS, JR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Zackery Weeks, Jr., an outstanding member of the Humphreys County High School Class of 2026, whose academic excellence, leadership, and dedication have distinguished him as one of the brightest young scholars in his community.

Zackery has earned the title of Humphreys County Star Student, a recognition that reflects his exceptional academic achievement and commitment to excellence. With an impressive 32 on the ACT and 1400 on the SAT, Zackery stands among the top-performing students in the region. His accomplishments in the classroom demonstrate not only intellectual ability, but also discipline, perseverance, and a strong work ethic.

Beyond academics, Zackery has shown leadership and character through his service as Chess Captain, where he has led with strategy, poise, and critical thinking. These qualities will serve him well as he continues his educational journey.

Zackery's hard work has resulted in extraordinary opportunities. He has received more than \$5.2 million in scholarship offers and more than 80 college acceptances. This fall, he will attend The University of Southern Mississippi on a full-ride scholarship, where he will continue building on his record of success while proudly representing Humphreys County.

Zackery is the beloved son of Lakisha Hinnant and Zackery Weeks, Sr., and the proud grandson of Pastor Kevin and Laura Hinnant of Belzoni, Mississippi; Felicia Allen of Selma, North Carolina; and the late Bronica Lane. He is also admired by his younger siblings, Serenity and Victory Weeks, who look up to him with pride and excitement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Zackery Weeks, Jr. for his remarkable achievements. His dedication, faith, and determination are a source of pride to his family, his school, and the entire Humphreys County community. I look forward to seeing all that he will accomplish in the years ahead.

HONORING FRANK M. MANANGAN

HON. JAMES C. MOYLAN

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2026

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable member of our Guam community, Mr. Frank M. Manangan, who recently celebrated an extraordinary milestone—his 100th birthday.

A century of life is a rare and remarkable achievement. It is a testament not only to longevity, but to a life filled with purpose, perseverance, and dedication to others. Today, we honor Mr. Manangan not simply because he has reached the age of one hundred, but because of the legacy he has built throughout those one hundred years.

Mr. Manangan was born on April 2, 1925, in San Antonio, Zambales, Philippines. Raised in humble surroundings, he learned early in life the values of hard work, discipline, and service. After graduating from high school, he joined the local police force, proudly serving his country and community with honor. Even as a young man, he demonstrated a commitment to helping others and fulfilling responsibilities larger than himself.

Like many who came before him, Mr. Manangan eventually sought new opportunities and a brighter future. He made the journey to Guam carrying with him determination, resilience, and a strong work ethic that would define the rest of his life. He arrived ready to work, ready to provide, and ready to build a future for his family.

Over the years, he contributed to Guam in many ways. He worked as a carpenter, applying his skill and craftsmanship to help build and maintain the community around him. He worked in warehouse operations and later transitioned into data entry. No matter the position, he approached every job with diligence, humility, and pride. His willingness to work hard and adapt throughout different stages of life speaks to the character that has earned him the respect of so many.

But perhaps Mr. Manangan's greatest contribution was the family he helped build.

Together with his beloved wife, he raised ten children. As the sole provider for his family, he worked tirelessly—often holding two jobs at the same time—to ensure that his children had the necessities of life and the opportunity to pursue their own dreams. The sacrifices he made were countless. Like so many parents, he placed the needs of his family above his own, day after day and year after year. Through his example, he taught his children the values of perseverance, responsibility, and unconditional love.

Those who know Mr. Manangan know that his legacy extends far beyond his work ethic. They know him as a man who brought people together.

One of his greatest passions was cooking. With ten children to feed, he learned how to create delicious meals while making the most of every dollar. His home was often filled with the aromas of traditional Filipino dishes, and over time his pancit became a favorite among family members and friends alike. It became a staple at gatherings and celebrations, where loved ones would eagerly look forward to enjoying one of his signature dishes. Through food, he expressed care, generosity, and a deep love for those around him.

It is often said that a person's true wealth is measured not by what they possess, but by the lives they touch. By that measure, Mr. Manangan's life has been extraordinarily rich. His children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, relatives, friends, and neighbors have all benefited from the example he has set and the values he has passed down through generations.

Today, as a centenarian, Mr. Manangan stands as a living reminder of the power of hard work, sacrifice, faith, and family. His story reflects the experiences of so many who came to Guam seeking opportunity and who, through determination and perseverance, helped strengthen our island community. Yet his story is uniquely his own—a story marked by service, devotion, and an enduring commitment to those he loved most.

On behalf of the people of Guam and the United States House of Representatives, I extend my deepest congratulations to Mr. Frank M. Manangan on reaching this extraordinary milestone. We thank him for a lifetime of contributions, for the family he has raised, and for the example he continues to provide for future generations.

Happy 100th Birthday to Mr. Frank M. Manangan. May he continue to be blessed with good health, happiness, and the love of family and friends.

NEEDHAM SPECIAL TOWN
MEETING RESOLUTION**HON. JAKE AUCHINCLOSS**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2026

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituent, Gerry Rovner, I include in the RECORD the following resolution, which was passed during the 2026 Needham Special Town Meeting by voice vote:

Whereas, the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, written by John Adams, helped shape the United States Constitution and enshrines core principles of American governance, including separation of powers, checks and balances, the rule of law, and the protection of individual rights and civil liberties; and

Whereas, James Madison warned in *Federalist No. 47* that “the accumulation of all powers, legislative, executive, and judiciary, in the same hands... may justly be pronounced the very definition of tyranny,” affirming separation of powers as a fundamental safeguard of democracy; and

Whereas, the Town of Needham governs according to democratic principles grounded in the United States Constitution, the Massachusetts Constitution, and applicable federal and state law; and

Whereas, in the first year of his second term, President Trump has repeatedly undermined these constitutional principles by defying court orders, dismantling congressionally created agencies, withholding appropriated funds, imposing tariffs without congressional approval, and authorizing military actions abroad without congressional authorization; and

Whereas, the administration has also used intimidation tactics, including deploying troops on U.S. soil, threatening federal prosecution of perceived political enemies, and withholding federal funding for education and research, including from Massachusetts institutions, that refuse to comply with unlawful executive directives; and

Whereas, the administration has dismantled or weakened federal programs that support vulnerable populations, including programs affecting Medicaid, Medicare, SNAP, prescription drug affordability, and protections under the Affordable Care Act; and

Whereas, immigration enforcement practices pursued by the administration and the Department of Homeland Security raise serious constitutional concerns, including detentions that undermine protections against unreasonable search and seizure, due process, and habeas corpus, and policies allowing agents to obscure their identities and detain individuals without judicial warrants; and

Whereas, recent Supreme Court decisions, including *Trump v. United States* (2024), have expanded presidential immunity for certain official actions, raising concerns about accountability and the balance of powers, while Congress has failed to exercise its constitutional responsibilities over war powers, appropriations, and oversight; and

Whereas, actions that undermine constitutional governance, civil liberties, and the rule of law at the federal level have direct consequences for the Town of Needham and its residents, as well as residents throughout Massachusetts, its municipalities, educational and research institutions, and vulnerable populations who rely on federal programs; and

Whereas, residents of Needham have consistently demonstrated through peaceful protest and civic engagement their expectation that democratic institutions be protected and constitutional norms upheld; and

Now therefore, be it resolved, that this Town Meeting affirms that no person, including the President of the United States, is above the law and that all public officials are bound by their oath to uphold and faithfully execute the Constitution of the United States; and

Be it further resolved, that this Town Meeting urges the President of the United States to faithfully execute the duties of the office in accordance with the Constitution and federal law, and calls upon the United States Congress to exercise its constitutional authority to conduct robust oversight of the executive branch and investigate any violations of the Constitution or abuses of executive power; and

Be it further resolved, that the Town Clerk transmit copies of this Resolution to the Massachusetts Congressional delegation and to the leadership of both Houses of Congress. The collective voice of the Town of Needham may be entered into the public record.

HONORING MAYOR NONITO “NITO”
CASTRO BLAS**HON. JAMES C. MOYLAN**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2026

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a devoted public servant, proud veteran, and beloved son of Guam, former Mangilao Mayor Nonito “Nito” Castro Blas, who passed away on May 6, 2026, at the age of 89.

For nearly three decades, Mayor Nito Blas dedicated his life to serving the people of Mangilao and our island community. To many, he was not simply a mayor. He was a trusted leader, a familiar face, and someone who genuinely cared about the people he served.

Born on June 25, 1936, Nito Blas belonged to a generation shaped by sacrifice, resilience, and service. He witnessed Guam's growth and