

transformation across decades and remained deeply committed to preserving the spirit of community that defines our island.

Before entering public office, Mayor Blas proudly served our Nation in the United States Navy. Like so many sons and daughters of Guam, he answered the call to serve far from home, carrying with him the values of duty, humility, and patriotism that would guide him throughout his life. Those same values became the foundation of his public service.

As Mayor of Mangilao for seven terms spanning nearly 28 years, Nito Blas earned the trust and respect of generations of families in his village. And anyone who knew him understood why.

Mayor Blas led with humility and authenticity. He was approachable, kind, and deeply connected to the people around him. He understood that leadership was not about status or recognition, but about showing up for your community day after day. Whether it was attending village events, supporting local families, helping residents through difficult times, or simply taking the time to speak with people personally, Mayor Blas made others feel heard and valued. He represented a generation of leaders who believed public service was rooted in responsibility and compassion.

For the people of Mangilao, Mayor Blas was part of the heartbeat of the village itself. He took pride in bringing people together and strengthening the close-knit community spirit that makes Guam's villages so special.

His impact extended far beyond government offices or official titles. It could be seen in the relationships he built, the trust he earned, and the respect he carried throughout the island community. And while his years in office were significant, what many people will remember most is the kind of man he was. He carried himself with warmth and sincerity. He treated people with dignity and respect. And he served not for personal gain, but because he truly loved his community and wanted to make a difference in the lives of others.

Leaders like Nito Blas leave behind more than accomplishments. They leave behind an example. An example of steady leadership, humility, and most importantly, service before self. At a time when communities everywhere are searching for leadership rooted in compassion and integrity, the life of Mayor Blas reminds us what true public service looks like.

Today, we mourn his passing, but we also celebrate a life that was well lived and deeply meaningful to so many people across Guam. I extend my deepest condolences to the Blas family, his loved ones, former colleagues, and the people of Mangilao during this difficult time. May we continue to honor his legacy by serving our communities with the same humility, dedication, and heart that defined his life.

May Nonito "Nito" Castro Blas rest in eternal peace, and may his memory continue to inspire future generations of leaders in Guam.

HONORING ELAINE CRUZ JONES

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 mourn the passing of a truly remarkable woman from Guam, Mrs. Elaine

Cruz Jones, who passed away on May 6, 2026, at the age of 87.

For generations of Guam families, Elaine Jones was more than a respected businesswoman or community leader. She was "Auntie Laine." A steady presence. A woman of grace, faith, generosity, and quiet strength whose life reflected the resilience and spirit of our island people.

Elaine was born into Cruz family as one of eleven children of Augusto Pangelinan and Dolores Sablan Cruz. She grew up during one of the darkest chapters in Guam's history and survived the Japanese Occupation of Guam during World War II.

That experience shaped her generation in profound ways. The people who endured occupation, hardship, fear, and uncertainty carried with them a deep understanding of sacrifice, perseverance, and gratitude. They became the builders of modern Guam. And Elaine Jones was part of that extraordinary generation.

Following the war, Guam entered a period of rebuilding and transformation. Alongside her beloved husband, Kenneth T. Jones, Jr., Elaine helped support what would become one of Guam's most important and influential local businesses, J & G Enterprises.

Together with Ken and his business partner, Segundo Leon Guerrero, they helped lay foundations for economic opportunity and local entrepreneurship at a time when Guam was still finding its footing after the devastation of war. But while many people may recognize the Jones family name because of business success, those who truly knew Auntie Laine understood that her legacy extended far beyond business.

She was, first and foremost, devoted to her family. She was a loving wife to Ken and a proud mother to her five daughters—Donna, Ramona, Veronica, Linda, and Vivian—all of whom carry forward the values she instilled: faith, humility, compassion, and service to others.

Anyone who spent time around Auntie Laine knew how deeply she loved her family and how proud she was of them. She led not through loud words, but through example. Through kindness. Through consistency. Through faith. And even after the passing of her husband, she continued to lead with dignity and strength, stepping forward as President of J & G Enterprises and continuing the family's commitment to giving back to Guam.

Her life was deeply rooted in service to the community. Whether through philanthropy, civic involvement, support for local causes, or simply helping those in need quietly and without recognition, Auntie Laine represented a generation that believed success meant lifting others up along the way.

She also remained unwavering in her devotion to her Catholic faith. Faith was not simply something she practiced on Sundays. It guided how she treated people, how she carried herself, and how she lived her life every single day. And that is perhaps what so many people will remember most about her—her warmth. Her humility. Her generosity. Her ability to make others feel welcomed and valued.

On an island like Guam, where family and community are deeply connected, people like Elaine Jones leave an imprint that reaches far beyond their own relatives. They become woven into the story of the island itself. Her passing is not only a loss for her family, but for our entire community.

Today, I extend my deepest condolences to her daughters, grandchildren, loved ones, and all who had the privilege of knowing her. As we reflect on her life, may we also reflect on the example she leaves behind: a life grounded in faith, resilience, service, and love for others.

May Auntie Laine's memory continue to inspire future generations of Guam families to lead with compassion, generosity, and strength. And may we all take comfort in knowing that her legacy will endure through the countless lives she touched throughout her 87 years.

RECOGNIZING GERRY PEREZ

HON. JAMES C. MOYLAN

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2026

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary son of Guam whose decades of leadership, service, and vision have left a lasting mark on our island community—Dr. Gerry Perez—as he retires following more than sixty years of public and private service to Guam, our island reflects with deep gratitude on a career defined by leadership, dedication, and an unwavering love for the people of Guam.

For generations, Dr. Gerry Perez has been a respected leader in tourism, economic development, public service, and regional advocacy throughout the Pacific.

Many across Guam know him as a driving force behind the growth and advancement of our visitor industry. Through his work with the Guam Visitors Bureau and decades of leadership in tourism development, he helped position Guam as a premier destination in the Asia-Pacific region while proudly showcasing the culture, hospitality, and identity of the CHamoru people.

But his impact reaches far beyond tourism alone. Dr. Perez's career reflects a lifetime devoted to building Guam's future across many sectors of island life. Over the years, he served in numerous leadership positions throughout government, business, education, and civic organizations including as Director of Land Management, Administrator of the Guam Economic Development Authority, Director of the Bureau of Budget and Management Research, Chairman of the Guam Chamber of Commerce, Vice Chairman of the University of Guam Board of Regents, and Chairman of the Government of Guam Retirement Fund Board of Trustees. His leadership helped shape policies and initiatives that continue to impact Guam today.

What stands out most about Dr. Gerry Perez is not simply the number of titles he has held, but the respect he has earned throughout our community over the course of a lifetime dedicated to service. He became known as someone who could bring people together, build partnerships, and advocate for Guam with professionalism and credibility both locally and internationally. In many ways, he served as one of Guam's strongest ambassadors to the world.

His work helped strengthen Guam's relationships throughout the Pacific and Asia while creating opportunities for economic growth, cultural exchange, and regional cooperation.

Even after decades of accomplishment, Dr. Perez continued to mentor others and remain actively engaged in shaping Guam's future. His commitment to service never faded.

Recently, he was honored with the Maga'Hōga Award, one of Guam's highest recognitions for public service—a fitting tribute to a man whose life's work has been dedicated to improving our island community. This recognition reflects what the people of Guam have long known: Gerry Perez represents the very best of public service, leadership, and island pride.

His legacy is found not only in the programs he helped build or the organizations he helped lead, but in the generations of leaders, professionals, and community members who benefited from his guidance and example. As Guam continues to navigate new opportunities and challenges in the IndoPacific region, leaders like Dr. Gerry Perez remind us of the importance of vision, collaboration, and service rooted in love for community.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I extend my deepest gratitude to Dr. Gerry Perez for his lifetime of contributions to our island. We thank him for his leadership. We thank him for representing Guam with distinction. And we thank him for helping build a stronger future for generations to come.

I congratulate Dr. Perez on his retirement and on a truly remarkable legacy of service.

RECOGNIZING FRANK RABON

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 son of Guam whose life's work has helped preserve, strengthen, and carry forward the cultural identity of the CHamoru people—Master of CHamoru Dance Frank Rabon.

Recently, Frank Rabon was named a 2026 National Heritage Fellow by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Nation's highest honor in folk and traditional arts. This recognition is not only well deserved—it is deeply meaningful for Guam's people.

For more than four decades, Saina Frank Rabon has dedicated his life to preserving and revitalizing Bailan CHamoru, the traditional dance, chant, and storytelling practices of the CHamoru people. Through his work as a dancer, choreographer, teacher, and cultural leader, he has helped ensure that future generations remain connected to their language, heritage, and ancestral identity. Culture survives because people choose to carry it forward. And few have carried the responsibility of cultural preservation with the same dedication, humility, and impact as Frank Rabon.

His work has touched countless lives across Guam and throughout the CHamoru diaspora. Generations of dancers, educators, and cultural practitioners have learned from his teachings and continue to share that knowledge with pride in communities across the Mariana Islands, the continental United States, and beyond.

As founder of Guma Taotao Tano', Frank Rabon helped create a space where culture could be lived, practiced, and passed on—not as history confined to books, but as a living expression of who we are as a people.

His choreography and cultural leadership have represented Guam on international stages for decades, including the Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture, where he helped showcase the strength and beauty of CHamoru traditions to the world.

What makes this honor especially powerful is that it recognizes something the people of Guam have long known: Preserving culture is essential work. It is the work of protecting our identity. It is the work of protecting language, stories, values, and traditions that connect generations together.

At a time when many Indigenous traditions around the world face the risk of being forgotten, leaders like Frank Rabon remind us that culture remains strongest when it is taught, shared, and lived openly within the community.

This recognition by the National Endowment for the Arts places Guam and the CHamoru people on a national stage and highlights the richness of our island's cultural heritage. Frank Rabon becomes only the second artist from Guam to receive this prestigious fellowship.

For the people of Guam, this moment is a source of tremendous pride. We are proud of the legacy he has built. We are proud of the generations he has inspired. And we are proud that the traditions of the CHamoru people continue to be carried forward with dignity and excellence.

I thank Master Frank Rabon for his lifelong dedication to our culture, our people, and our island. I congratulate him on this historic and well-deserved recognition.

RECOGNIZING THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

HON. JAMES C. MOYLAN

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2026

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Guam State Council of the Knights of Columbus as they celebrate their 25th Anniversary of faithful service, charitable outreach, and dedication to the people of Guam.

For the past twenty-five years, the Knights of Columbus on Guam have exemplified the values of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism through their unwavering commitment to serving others and strengthening our island community.

Across Guam, the Knights have supported parish communities, organized charitable initiatives, assisted families in times of hardship, and volunteered countless hours to causes that uplift and strengthen our people. Their work has touched lives throughout our island and reflects a deep commitment to faith, compassion, and community service. This milestone anniversary is not simply a celebration of years, but a celebration of the people behind the mission—the men, families, chaplains, and volunteers who have dedicated themselves to serving something greater than themselves.

Organizations like the Knights of Columbus play an important role in preserving the values that continue to define Guam: faith, family, service, and community responsibility. Through both large efforts and quiet acts of kindness that often go unseen, the Knights

have helped foster a spirit of unity and compassion throughout our island.

The Guam State Council has also served as a source of mentorship and fellowship for generations, encouraging leadership rooted in humility, integrity, and service to others. Their example reminds us that strong communities are built not only through words, but through consistent acts of generosity and care for one another. At a time when many communities face division and uncertainty, the continued work of the Knights of Columbus stands as a reminder of the importance of coming together in service and shared purpose.

Today, we recognize not only the accomplishments of the Guam State Council Knights of Columbus as an organization, but also the lasting impact they have made on countless lives across Guam over the past twenty-five years.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I extend my sincere congratulations and deepest gratitude to the officers, members, chaplains, volunteers, and families of the Guam State Council Knights of Columbus for their faithful dedication and service to our island community.

May God continue to bless their mission and guide their work for many years to come.

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 Tuesday, June 9, 2026 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 10

9 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Closed business meeting to markup the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2027.

SR-222

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider S. 140, to address the forest health crisis on the National Forest System and public lands, S. 332, to require a study on Holocaust education efforts of States, local educational agencies, and public elementary and secondary schools, S. 365 and H.R. 1729, bills to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to allow for additional entities to be eligible to complete the maintenance work