

scholarship initiatives, and advocacy efforts that address the needs of underserved communities. The church has also been a leader in confronting critical challenges facing the Dallas community. Through initiatives such as the Annual MLK Teach-In and the Food Justice Initiative, Friendship-West has promoted education, civic engagement, food access, and sustainability while empowering residents to become agents of change in their own communities.

In 2014, the Church expanded its impact by acquiring a credit union and creating pathways to financial opportunity for individuals and families often overlooked by traditional lending institutions. By providing access to responsible financial services and small-dollar loans, Friendship-West helped create opportunities for economic mobility and stability for members of the surrounding community.

The Church's ministry extends beyond Dallas. In 2003, Friendship-West formally adopted Emmanuel Baptist Church in Harare, Zimbabwe, helping support the construction of a worship auditorium, daycare center, and educational facilities. This partnership reflects the church's longstanding commitment to service both locally and globally.

For fifty years, Friendship-West has strengthened families, developed leaders, uplifted communities, and inspired generations to live lives of faith and service. Its legacy is reflected not only in the lives of its members but throughout Dallas, Texas' 30th Congressional District, and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Friendship-West Baptist Church as it celebrates its 50th anniversary. I congratulate its clergy, leadership, and congregation on this remarkable milestone and thank them for their enduring contributions to our community. I wish them continued success and abundant blessings in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH ON THE BLESSED OCCASION OF ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Good Shepherd Parish on the blessed occasion of its 75th Anniversary.

Good Shepherd Parish in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, was founded on May 28, 1951, to help serve the rapidly growing Catholic population on the West Shore of Harrisburg. Sunday Masses began on June 10, 1951, at the Camp Hill Theatre, and were supplemented in the auditorium of Trinity High School as the first pastor, Father Simpson, was called to find a home for his flock. The pioneer spirit was not lacking.

Given the challenges of humble beginnings, land was purchased on Market Street between 34th and 35th Streets by the Diocese of Harrisburg, and the growing parish worked vigorously to raise funds to build a church and school at the site. In July 1952, a groundbreaking ceremony was held at 34th and Market for the Good Shepherd Church and school. The attached school of four classrooms was opened September 1, 1953, with 121 students. The first Mass was celebrated

by Bishop George Leech on the day of the Church's dedication, September 13, 1953.

As the Catholic community expanded through the 1950s and 1960s, additions and modifications to the school part of the Market Street campus were made to accommodate. Sunday Masses were held in the standing room only, even with an overflow to the school hall and additional Masses at Trinity High School auditorium. The need for a larger church was evident, and a 7.6-acre site was purchased 25 years after Good Shepherd's doors first opened.

On September 11, 1977, a groundbreaking ceremony was held on Trindle Road for the construction of the new church—with a seating capacity of 1,100, an all-purpose room to function as a gathering and meeting space, an administrative wing, and a new rectory. Construction was completed in the summer of 1978, and the church was dedicated by Bishop Joseph Daley on November 5, 1978.

Beyond physical changes over time, the strength of the faith, determination, and dedication to the one Good Shepherd remains steadfast as the House of God, built with care and love. It continues its legacy with grace and gratitude for what was accomplished, and what yet remains to be done.

The legacy of the Good Shepherd Parish, 75 years later, provides its faith family deep, strong roots that continue to flourish—with a membership of more than 1750 families who serve God and our community with charity and fidelity.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 10th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, I am humbled and honored to congratulate the Good Shepherd Parish on this auspicious and blessed occasion of its 75th Anniversary. The church family's contributions to our communities—spiritual, charitable, educational, and social—are immeasurable, and I pray for God's continued blessings on their continued call to serve and honor Him.

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. CRAIG A. GOLDMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Texas Longhorns Softball Team on winning the 2026 NCAA Women's College World Series National Championship, the program's second consecutive national title. This incredible victory cements Texas Softball's place among the Nation's elite collegiate athletic programs.

The Longhorns secured the championship with a 4–1 victory over Texas Tech in Game Two of the Women's College World Series in Oklahoma City. Texas finished the season with an impressive 53–12 record and became just the fifth team in Women's College World Series history to lose its opening game but still capture the national title.

This championship run showcased the talent and determination of the entire team. Senior pitcher Citlaly Gutierrez earned the victory in the national championship finale, while junior pitcher Teagan Kavan closed out the championship with a dominant relief performance, striking out five of the six batters she faced.

Kavan was named the Women's College World Series Most Outstanding Player for the second consecutive year, becoming the first player in tournament history to earn that distinction twice. Junior first baseman Katie Stewart, whose outstanding postseason performance included four home runs during the Women's College World Series, joined Kavan on the All-Tournament Team. Stewart's efforts were critical to helping the Longhorns throughout their championship run.

The Longhorns received key contributions throughout the postseason from standout players, including Viviana Martinez, Kayden Henry, Leighann Goode, Kaiah Altmeyer, and Ashton Maloney. Under the leadership of Head Coach Mike White, Texas completed the NCAA Tournament with an 11–2 record and recorded 26 victories over nationally ranked opponents during the season. Coach White's 24 career victories in the Women's College World Series rank among the best in collegiate softball history and stand as a testament to his commitment to excellence.

I include in the RECORD the names of the members of the 2026 University of Texas Championship Softball Team, together with the program's distinguished coaching staff and dedicated support personnel:

Caigan Crabtree, MaTaia Lawson, Adayah Wallace, Kaydee Bennett, Ashton Maloney, Alisa Sneed, Shyllien Brister, Victoria Hunter, Hannah Wells, Reese Atwood, Teagan Kavan, Katie Stewart, Kayden Henry, Brenlee Gonzales, Viviana Martinez, Jaycie Nichols, Cambria Salmon, Taylor Anderson, Anne Wallace, Leighann Goode, Kaiah Altmeyer, Citlaly Gutierrez, Drea Wilson, Mike White, Ehren Earleywine, Kristen Zaleski, Pattie Ruth Taylor, Keely McMillon, Nick Williams, Melissa Schmitz, and Raiza Aguilar.

On behalf of the 12th Congressional District of Texas, I congratulate all the student-athletes, coaches, staff, alumni, and supporters of Texas Softball on this extraordinary achievement. Their dedication and perseverance have made their families, university, and the State of Texas proud. I wish them continued success and many more victories in the years ahead.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF RONALD "RON" NEAL RICCITELLI

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Ronald "Ron" Neal Riccitelli, of Carlsbad, California, who passed away on May 11, 2026, at the age of 80. In honor of his passing, I pay tribute to and reflect on the life he led and the impact he had on our community in the 49th District.

Ron was a resident of the Carlsbad community for nearly five decades and is remembered as a beloved husband, father, brother, educator, and friend.

Ron grew up in the San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles, a few hours north of Carlsbad. He attended San Fernando High School in 1963 and went on to graduate from San Fernando Valley State College, where he earned his degree in Physical Education.

Following his time at university, Ron moved to the Tenamar Beach community of Carlsbad in 1977 and never left. Alongside his wife and partner Christine, Ron raised a family while simultaneously forming lasting bonds with his neighbors. Friends remember his caring nature and exceptionally handy ability to fix and improve the homes of others.

Ron taught physical education and coached across North County San Diego for 38 years, a responsibility he embraced with great dedication. Over the course of nearly four decades, Ron served as a role model for the students at San Marcos Middle School, San Marcos High School, Carlsbad High School, and Palomar College. Under his mentorship, students were not only motivated to excel athletically but inspired to grow as people and take care of one another.

At the age of 58, Ron retired from his career in education to travel the world, where he exercised his love for the outdoors across countries. Throughout his six-year battle with prostate cancer, Ron continued to show great resilience and optimism. Ron is remembered as a dedicated educator and a wonderful friend who has left behind a lasting legacy of courage, grit, and positivity.

Ron Riccitelli exhibited a deep love for the City of Carlsbad and forged strong bonds within the greater Carlsbad community. He was a light to all who knew him and I share in the celebration of his life.

CONGRATULATING BULGARIA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as founder and co-chair of the Bulgaria Caucus, I am grateful to congratulate Bulgaria on winning its first ever Eurovision Song Contest.

Ever since my service as an election observer in Bulgaria, 36 years ago today, I have been inspired by the talented people of Bulgaria with its extraordinary history from the time of ancient Thrace.

I have seen firsthand brave Bulgarians emerge from communist oppression to achieve dynamic EU and NATO membership.

Eurovision 2026 marked the 70th edition of this celebrated competition, showcasing musical talent from nations across the continent. Held from May 10 through May 16, the contest brought together 35 nations competing for the prestigious Crystal Microphone at the Wiener Stadthalle in Vienna, Austria.

Choreographed by Fredrik Rydman and Keisha von Arnold, the winning display was as dominant as it was energetic as they became the first team in nearly a decade to win the televote and jury vote.

The winning song, “Bangaranga,” was performed by Darina Nikolaeva Yotova, known as “Dara,” and written by Anne Judith Wik, Cristian Tarcea, and Dimitris Kontopoulos.

This win is the culmination of hard work by the team of performers, writers, and choreographers. I congratulate Bulgaria on their victory and I wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF MOUNT JOY BOROUGH

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate 175 years of Mount Joy Borough, Pennsylvania, a community whose remarkable history and enduring character have helped shaped Lancaster County for generations.

Located in the northwestern corner of Lancaster County, Mount Joy was incorporated as a borough in 1851 through the consolidation of the villages of Mount Joy and Richland, as well as smaller hamlets. Its present boundaries were completed when Florin joined the borough in 1963.

The history of Mount Joy stretches beyond the formal date of 1851. In 1689, the supply ship Mountjoy broke the blockade on the Scotch-Irish stronghold of Londonderry, ending a 105-day siege that resulted in thousands of deaths from starvation. As Scotch-Irish settlers moved into northwestern Lancaster County in the 18th century, they named their new home after the ship that saved their people decades prior.

Today, Mount Joy Borough is a vibrant, walkable town with centuries-old family businesses ranging from popcorn processors and underground breweries to insurance agencies and specialty shops. The borough is also home to the oldest Memorial Day parade in Lancaster County and its own weather-prognosticating groundhog, Mount Joy Minnie.

It is an honor to recognize Mount Joy Borough as it celebrates its 175th anniversary, and I am proud to count its residents among my constituents. I thank the public officials and community members, past and present, whose dedication has made this borough strong, and I look forward to the next chapter in its rich history.

HONORING THE COAHOMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE CHOIR AND DR. KELVIN TOWERS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary achievements of the Coahoma Community College Choir and its distinguished director, Dr. Kelvin Towers, as they represent the State of Mississippi and our Nation through their recent travel to India.

The Coahoma Community College Choir, based in Clarksdale, Mississippi, has long been a source of pride for the Mississippi Delta. Under the exceptional leadership of Dr. Towers, the choir has earned a reputation for musical excellence, discipline, and cultural enrichment. Their commitment to the arts has not only elevated their institution but has also served as a beacon of inspiration for students and communities throughout our region.

The Coahoma Community College Choir recently continued its tradition of excellence on a global stage through its participation in the 100 Days World Cultural Festival and World

Religions Summit in Karnataka, India. From Clarksdale to India, these students represented Mississippi and the United States through their—original production, *The African American Story, Sung in a Foreign Land*, sharing a message of unity, culture, and faith with audiences from around the world.

This recognition celebrates more than a performance. It reflects a commitment to excellence, cultural exchange, and global impact. The choir’s invitation to travel to India is a testament to its talent and to the global reach of its artistry. This opportunity allowed the choir to share the rich musical traditions of the Mississippi Delta while also embracing and learning from the diverse cultural heritage of India. Through their performances, they served as ambassadors of goodwill, fostering cultural exchange, unity, and mutual understanding across international borders.

Dr. Towers’ dedication to mentoring and guiding his students cannot be overstated. His leadership has cultivated not only musical excellence, but also confidence, discipline, and a broader worldview among his students. By exposing them to international experiences, he has expanded their horizons and provided them with opportunities that will have a lasting impact on their personal and professional lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the Coahoma Community College Choir and Dr. Kelvin Towers for exemplifying the power of education, the arts, and cultural exchange, and for representing Mississippi and the United States with excellence, dignity, and pride.

UKRAINE SUPPORT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2026

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to defend our ally Ukraine, who has bravely resisted Vladimir Putin’s invasion for over four years.

It is our job in America, as the leader of the free world, to continue to support our ally when they need us. Only the Ukrainian people can decide when it is done fighting—no one else.

History teaches that aggressors never stop on their own accord. They are never satisfied with appeasement. If Vladimir Putin’s war is rewarded with Ukrainian land, he will try again for more.

I will continue to advocate for our ally Ukraine—for their defense, for the civilian and military resources they need, and for allowing them to control their own destiny. That is our obligation as an ally and as the world’s strongest democracy.

The Ukraine Support Act would show the strength of our commitment, authorizing additional loans to Ukraine and NATO allies while also providing additional funds for reconstruction, Baltic Security, and Radio Free Europe, which is vital to countering Russian propaganda.

This legislation includes tough sanctions on Russia, and to hold Putin accountable for this unjustifiable war.

I will continue to stand with our ally Ukraine for as long as it takes, until its people are safe and free once more.