

HONORING THE PRINCE WILLIAM
COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2026

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the Prince William County Police Department (PWCPD) for receiving several Valor Awards, recognizing the exceptional bravery and selfless service demonstrated by the department's officers.

As we mark the 40th anniversary of the Valor Awards, we are proud to celebrate this tradition that has stood as the highest recognition of courage within the Prince William County Police Department. Since inception, these awards have honored generations of first responders who answered the call when it mattered most.

The impact of such bravery resonates throughout the community. Each courageous act, whether confronting immediate threats, providing aid in moments of crisis, or responding calmly under pressure reflects a deep commitment to the well-being of others. These actions go beyond traditional law enforcement. They embody public service at its highest level. The PWCPD has also demonstrated strong performance in investigative work, expanded community outreach, and received recognition for training, crisis response, and community-focused policing. Together, these efforts strengthen trust, safety, and unity across neighborhoods, schools, and local businesses.

By recognizing the Prince William County Police Department today, we not only celebrate their courage, but also the profound influence that dedicated public service can have on a community. We are grateful for their sacrifice and proud to stand with them in gratitude and recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Prince William County Police Department for their remarkable contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING HAYSVILLE'S 75TH
ANNIVERSARY DURING AMERICA'S
SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL

HON. RON ESTES

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2026

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, on July 3, 2026, just one day before our Nation celebrates Independence Day, the City of Haysville will celebrate its 75th anniversary.

Established in 1951, this thriving community sits just south of Wichita and is home to restaurants, shops, neighborhoods and more than 11,000 Kansans. The city has continued to value quality of life, making improvements in services, parks, and infrastructure over the last decade.

Haysville has become a place of gathering, where south central Kansas residents choose to make their homes and build their lives. And as they celebrate their incorporation, they also honor the men and women who have led Haysville over the past three-quarters of a century.

Haysville is also a place of strength and grit. Being in the heartland, Haysville has seen its share of severe weather. In 1991, a tornado impacted Haysville before moving on with greater intensity. And then in 1999, Haysville was the epicenter of the F-4 tornado that would claim lives and cause massive damage. The people of Haysville's compassion and resilience were on full display, and that strength continues to shape the community to this day.

As Haysville celebrates its 75th anniversary, our Nation is preparing to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. A lot has changed over the past quarter of a millennium, but I imagine that our Founding Fathers would be pleased to see the patriotism and community pride that is taking place in Haysville.

While this year is sure to be exciting, I look forward to seeing Haysville grow and flourish for many years to come. I encourage all Kansans to celebrate the 75th anniversary of Haysville as we prepare for America's semiquincentennial.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE LAKE ORION
LIONS CLUB JUBILEE

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2026

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lake Orion Lions Club Jubilee and the lasting tradition it represents for the Village of Lake Orion. This beloved celebration is a testament to the strong community spirit and pride that have brought residents together for the last 50 years.

Starting in 1976, the Lake Orion Lions Club created the Jubilee as part of the community's celebration of the Nation's Bicentennial. What began as a special commemorative event has grown into one of the Lions Club's largest fundraisers and a cherished annual summer tradition for the Lake Orion community.

As our Nation celebrates its 250th anniversary, the Jubilee serves as an example of how communities across America continue to honor their history while building traditions that bring people together.

For generations, the Jubilee has served as a gathering place where families, friends, and neighbors come together to celebrate the community they call home. The Jubilee remains a cherished tradition that brings the Lake Orion community together each year in celebration of its shared history and strong sense of community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Lake Orion Jubilee and congratulating the Lake Orion Lions Club, volunteers, and residents for sustaining this remarkable community tradition.

CONGRATULATING THE STORM
BASEBALL ORGANIZATION ON
WINNING THE 2026 LEGION BASEBALL
CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. PABLO JOSÉ HERNÁNDEZ

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2026

Mr. HERNÁNDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the SBO—Storm Baseball Organization on winning the 2026 Legion Baseball Championship of Puerto Rico. This victory represents the dedication, discipline, and teamwork of outstanding young athletes, their coaching staff, families, volunteers, and sponsors.

Legion Baseball stands as one of the most significant youth programs of the American Legion. For over a century, it has developed young athletes not merely as ballplayers, but as responsible citizens and future leaders. Through this program, young men learn discipline, teamwork, respect, civic responsibility, and a commitment to excellence that extends far beyond the baseball field.

I recognize Manager Alexis Ortiz and Coaches Jovany Santiago, Pedro Perez, Dalwin Román Rodríguez, and Christian López, whose leadership, expertise, and commitment to developing these young men made this championship possible. I also honor Pedro J. Rodríguez Oquendo of American Legion Post 129, whose sponsorship and support strengthened this organization.

The championship was earned by nineteen exceptional young athletes and I include in the RECORD their names:

Carlos Colón, Yadriel Delgado, Elimelec Flores, Diego López, Ken Luis López, Lorenzo Meléndez, David Orellano, Joel Orellano, Ian Pérez, Andrés Quintana, Alexander Rivera, Carlos Rodríguez, Dereck Rodríguez, Xavier Rovira, Dereck Soto, Victor Tirado, Jeddriel Villegas, Sebastián Villegas, and Marcos Acevedo.

Their perseverance, competitive spirit, and representation of Puerto Rico reflected the true meaning of sportsmanship and pride.

Legion Baseball also offers our veterans from all eras the opportunity to continue serving by investing in youth. Through their participation, veterans strengthen the bonds between generations and reaffirm The American Legion's mission: serving veterans, families, youth, and our Nation.

I urge all citizens of Puerto Rico to recognize the importance of programs like Legion Baseball, which unite young athletes, veterans, families, and communities. These young champions represent the future of our island and the enduring spirit of excellence and service.

HONORING THE DUMFRIES
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2026

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the Dumfries Volunteer Fire Department and to recognize one of its distinguished members who has received a Merit Award:

Firefighter Steve Hailey. While today we recognize Firefighter Hailey, this award reflects the commitment to duty, professionalism, and public safety that defines the entire department.

As we mark the 40th anniversary of the Valor Awards, we are proud to celebrate this tradition that has stood as the highest recognition of courage within the Dumfries Volunteer Fire Department. Since inception, these awards have honored generations of first responders who answered the call when it mattered most.

Each recipient exemplifies true valor, facing danger without hesitation, providing life-saving aid, and prioritizing the safety of others in the most challenging emergencies. Their courage and compassion strengthen the bonds within our community, fostering trust, resilience, and a shared sense of security. Today, we honor their collective bravery and commitment to public service.

Whether responding to fires, medical emergencies, or natural disasters, these individuals demonstrate an unyielding commitment to preserving life and property. Their professionalism and readiness in the face of uncertainty set an example for us all and serve as a reminder of the impact that first responders have on the lives of those they protect. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Dumfries Volunteer Fire Department and Firefighter Hailey for their remarkable contributions to our community.

HONORING THE VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF LAKE COUNTY'S 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER
OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2026

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Veterans Assistance Commission of Lake County (VACLC) as it celebrates 100 years of service to the veterans and families of Lake County, Illinois.

Founded in 1926, the VACLC came into being when local veterans recognized the need for a centralized organization dedicated to serving veterans and their families. For a century, the VACLC has worked tirelessly to ensure that the men and women who served our Nation receive the benefits, resources, and support they have earned through their sacrifice. What began as a single service office has become a well-respected veteran's service organization in Illinois and has aided veterans from all eras and conflicts.

Today, the Commission offers a broad range of essential services, including disability claims advocacy, financial assistance, burial benefits, and survivors' benefits. The VACLC also provides professional representation for veterans navigating the claims and appeals process, ensuring that those who have served our country receive the benefits which they have earned and deserve. Notably, the VACLC provides these services free of charge as part of the Commission's unwavering commitment to serving veterans and their families.

The Commission's continued success is due in large part to the dedication of its leadership and staff. Led by Executive Director Andrew

Tangen since 2017, the VACLC has expanded its impact and strengthened its service to veterans throughout Lake County. A United States Navy veteran who served eight deployments and attained the rank of Lieutenant Commander, Mr. Tangen has brought his extensive military, legal, and professional experience to the Commission. His leadership has positioned the organization for continued success in serving the growing needs of today's veterans.

Working closely with local governments, community organizations, and veteran advocates throughout Lake County, the VACLC continues to ensure that no veteran is left behind.

I am especially proud of the Veterans Assistance Commission of Lake County's partnership with my office. Every year the VACLC has joined me honoring our local veterans at my annual Veterans Day Breakfast and has partnered with my staff to help share our community's gratitude through our annual Valentines for Veterans program. Their commitment to our veterans extends far beyond the many services they provide.

Mr. Speaker, the Veterans Assistance Commission of Lake County embodies the values of service, dedication, and community that make my district a desired home for so many veterans. As the VACLC celebrates their centennial anniversary, I congratulate its leadership, staff, volunteers, and clients on this remarkable milestone and thank them for 100 years of outstanding service to our veterans. I look forward to seeing the Commission continue its important mission for many years to come.

HONORING GUADALUPE TOWN MANAGER JEFF KULAGA'S PUBLIC SERVICE CAREER

HON. YASSAMIN ANSARI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2026

Ms. ANSARI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Jeff Kulaga upon his retirement as Town Manager of the Town of Guadalupe, Arizona, and to thank him for more than three decades of distinguished public service to communities across our state.

Since his unanimous appointment as Town Manager and Town Clerk in 2017, Jeff Kulaga has served the people of Guadalupe with integrity, professionalism, and an unwavering commitment to community improvement. In addition to overseeing the Town's day-to-day operations and implementing Town Council policy, he has taken on numerous responsibilities including serving as Guadalupe's Chief Financial Officer, Zoning Administrator, Business License Administrator, Cemetery Administrator, and Community Development Director. Under his leadership, the Town has continued to advance opportunities for residents while responsibly managing an annual budget of more than \$11 million.

Jeff's career in public service spans more than 30 years in Arizona municipal government. Prior to his time in Guadalupe, he served as Assistant City Manager for the City of Tempe and held multiple leadership roles in Mesa and Scottsdale, including Government Relations Director and Executive Assistant to

the Mayor. Throughout each chapter of his career, he has earned the respect of colleagues, elected officials, and community members alike for his thoughtful leadership and collaborative approach to governance.

Our office has had the privilege of working closely with Jeff on projects that directly improve the quality of life for Guadalupe residents. Most notably, we were proud to partner with the Town to help secure \$2 million for the refurbishment of Biehn Colony Park, an investment that will help preserve and revitalize an important community space for generations to come. Jeff's advocacy for Guadalupe and his ability to bring partners together played an instrumental role in advancing this effort.

A proud "Double Devil," Jeff earned both his Bachelor of Science degree and Master's degree in Public Administration from Arizona State University. He has remained deeply engaged in civic and professional organizations throughout his career, including the Arizona City and County Management Association, the Arizona Municipal Clerks Association, and the Urban Land Institute.

Jeff Kulaga's career reflects the very best of public service: steady leadership, institutional knowledge, and a deep belief in serving others. On behalf of Arizona's 3rd Congressional District, I extend my sincere gratitude for his years of service and wish him, his family, and loved ones continued success and fulfillment in this next chapter.

TRIBUTE TO TAYLOR COLE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2026

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Taylor Cole, an American patriot who made incredible contributions to our national defense, who was killed in a tragic motorcycle accident in the Cajon Pass on Sunday, April 5, 2026. Taylor served as the Chief Technology Officer at the Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) Corona Division and will be deeply missed.

After earning a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering at the University of California, Riverside, Taylor began his career at NSWC Corona in 2003 as a mechanical engineer. Taylor's work and creative approach to complex Navy challenges took him across the globe, including as a tactical mathematician working side-by-side with deployed service members. He developed an entirely novel method to predict the patterns of improvised explosive devices in response to attacks to servicemembers in Afghanistan and Iraq. His exceptional service earned him the Global War on Terrorism medal—a rare achievement for a civilian—and selection as a Chief of Naval Operations Strategic Studies Fellow. A visionary leader and intellectual trailblazer, Taylor rose to become Chief Technology Officer in 2018. In this role, he fearlessly led the command's research and development programs, drove the command's culture of innovation, and mentored college students from his alma mater in solving naval problems.