

As Major General Rhodes begins this well-earned retirement, we thank him for his decades of faithful service, steadfast leadership, and unwavering dedication to our Nation.

Major General Rhodes' commitment to service exemplifies the very best of the United States Army and the Mississippi National Guard. I congratulate him on an extraordinary career and wish him and his family every success in the years ahead.

HONORING DANNY REYNOLDS OF
STEPHENSON'S OF ELKHART

HON. RUDY YAKYM III

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2026

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Danny Reynolds of Stephenson's of Elkhart, who will be named the 2026 America's Retail Champion on July 15 at the NRF Retail Advocates Summit here in Washington, DC. Danny Reynolds is a name known to just about every family in Elkhart County.

For decades, he has helped fit local residents for life's biggest moments, and he's done it with the kind of personal touch you only find on Main Street.

The Stephenson's story goes back to 1931, when the store first opened as a small, appointment-only dress shop in downtown Elkhart. Today, nearly a century later, it has grown into a fixture spanning three buildings, still rooted in that same stretch of Main Street where it all began.

Danny's own story with the business started young. His parents took over Stephenson's in 1964, and Danny was practically raised in the stockroom, learning the trade from the ground up as a teenager. I have to think that's also where he picked up his sense of style, which I can personally attest to, having picked up clothing from Stephenson's myself.

After finishing college in 1994, he came back home and never left, building on his family's legacy one customer at a time for more than thirty years since.

But Danny's impact reaches well beyond downtown Elkhart. He has become a leading voice for retailers across this industry in the halls of Congress, helping connect policymakers with the realities of Main Street.

Mr. Speaker, small businesses like Stephenson's are the heartbeat of our communities and the backbone of our local economies. With 36.2 million small businesses across this country accounting for nearly half of all private-sector jobs, their impact reaches every corner of America, and Danny Reynolds is a shining example of what makes Main Street work.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Danny Reynolds on being named the 2026 America's Retail Champion, and in thanking him for his decades of service to Elkhart County and to Hoosiers across Indiana's 2nd District.

HONORING AND PAYING TRIBUTE
TO SUSIE BEATRICE WEST
FRANCIS

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor one of South Florida's most respected and heralded educators and community activists, Susie Beatrice West Francis. Not only was she a beloved mother, wife and sister, but she was dearly loved and respected by the community. She gave of herself selflessly, always there to lend advice and a helping hand.

Susie Beatrice West Francis' teaching career started at D.A. Dorsey Junior-Senior High, where she taught home economics to black students. After desegregation, she taught at Westview Middle School. She was known for her elegance, poise and signature white gloves.

Mrs. Francis, along with Maude K. Reid and Mayme E. Williams founded The Links Greater Miami Chapter. The volunteer organization helps in civic, corporate and community initiatives. As a Link and member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Mrs. Francis raised funds for charity, helped establish scholarships for students, took care of the homeless and helped provide for mothers in need in other countries.

Mrs. Francis was married to the late Daniel Francis who was the editor of the Miami Tropical Dispatch, a weekly newspaper for the black community distributed in Overtown. They have one daughter, DanySu F. Pritchett. Mrs. Francis was born in Jacksonville to a father who was a barber and a mother who was a seamstress. Mrs. Francis was raised in Tampa along with seven siblings.

She attended Florida A&M University where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in education.

I recognize my Soror and Link sister, Susie Beatrice West Francis, and I am honored to pay tribute to her life and legacy. I thank her for her unwavering dedication and commitment to her students and this community.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
SUPERINTENDENT CAM SHOLLY

HON. RYAN K. ZINKE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2026

Mr. ZINKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the selfless service of Yellowstone National Park Superintendent Cam Sholly, a man who has demonstrated unwavering dedication to preserving and protecting America's best idea, our National Park system.

Cam Sholly is the son of a career National Park Service employee. He grew up hiking, fishing, camping and learning in our parks, to include attending elementary school in Crater National Park, middle school in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, and graduated high school a Gardiner Bruin in Yellowstone National Park. This upbringing shaped a deep love for public lands and America's great outdoors.

Truly born for the National Park Service, Cam started his career in 1990 working in Yellowstone's backcountry before serving as Chief of Ranger Operations at Yosemite National Park, Deputy Associate Director and later Associate Director for Visitor and Resource Protection at the National Park Service, Superintendent of Natchez Trace Parkway, and Regional Director for the NPS Midwest Region, overseeing 61 national park units across 13 states before returning to Montana and being chosen to lead Yellowstone National Park as Superintendent in 2018.

Cam's experience and deep knowledge of our National Parks molded him into the perfect leader Yellowstone needed through several of the park's most significant challenges since its founding in 1872. Cam led park operations during the COVID-19 pandemic and unlike many public lands managers, Cam made the call to keep the park open. With the pandemic limiting activities worldwide, Americans sought outdoor destinations. Yellowstone National Park hosted 3.8 million visits in 2020 and a record-breaking 4.8 million visits in 2021, while working to provide millions of visitors with a safe experience.

Cam's greatest challenge, and a defining moment of his leadership, came directly after the pandemic when historic floods triggered what hydrologists described as a 500-year flood. In 2022, the flooding destroyed miles of roads, washed away bridges, triggered massive mudslides and rockslides, damaged water and wastewater systems, and completely severed the North Entrance between Gardiner, Montana, and Mammoth Hot Springs. In one of the most successful emergency recoveries in National Park history, Cam was able to reopen 93 percent of the park within 20 days and rebuild two major road corridors in only four months. This recovery not only saved the public park experience, but the surrounding Montana communities that rely on tourism. Cam's resilience in the face of adversity turned what many expected to be a years-long closure into a recovery that allowed Yellowstone to welcome millions of visitors again while rebuilding for the future.

Cam Sholly's career reflects the very best of the National Park Service and the American spirit. Through decades of dedicated service, he has protected our Nation's greatest treasures while ensuring that millions of Americans can experience the beauty and wonder of our public lands.

Mr. Speaker, as our Nation celebrates its 250th anniversary, it is fitting that we recognize individuals like Cam Sholly, whose commitment to conservation, public service, and the stewardship of America's great outdoors will benefit generations to come. I thank Cam Sholly for his unwavering dedication to Yellowstone National Park, the State of Montana, and the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING MCCRAY BENSON

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2026

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. McCray Benson as he concludes his distinguished tenure as President

and CEO of the Community Foundation of Henderson County, marking more than two decades of extraordinary and selfless service to the people of Hendersonville.

Mr. Benson earned his master's degree in social work from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and has devoted his life's work to public and nonprofit service since 1977. His commitment to strengthening communities led him to Henderson County through his role with the Foundation for the Carolinas, where he served as Senior Vice President of Community Affiliates, supporting a broad region stretching from Blowing Rock, North Carolina, to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

During his remarkable tenure at CFHC, Mr. Benson helped triple the foundation's core assets and ensured those resources were invested directly back into the community. He built an exceptional professional staff and sustained a board of directors whose leadership has been central to the foundation's success. Under his guidance, new nonprofit organizations were launched, key mergers strengthened collaboration across Western North Carolina, and the foundation emerged as a driving force in empowering and uplifting the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Mr. Benson's career defined by vision, compassion, and unwavering dedication to the people of Henderson County and the State of North Carolina. On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I extend my deepest gratitude to McCray and offer my heartfelt best wishes as he enters a well-earned and fulfilling retirement.

COMMEMORATING THE RETIREMENT OF SUMMIT FIRE CHIEF ERIC EVERS

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2026

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the retirement of Summit Fire Chief Eric Evers, who has served the Summit Fire Department with distinction for an extraordinary 38 years. Chief Evers' steadfast dedication, leadership, and commitment to the safety and well-being of Summit residents are worthy of the highest commendation.

Chief Evers began his journey with the department as a volunteer firefighter in 1987, quickly rising through the ranks to become a career firefighter in 1990. Over the years, he served in multiple command roles, including Lieutenant, Battalion Chief, Deputy Chief, and Summit Fire Official, culminating in his appointment as Fire Chief in 2015. Throughout his tenure, Chief Evers consistently demonstrated professionalism, courage, and a steadfast focus on public safety.

Chief Evers' impact is evident in the collaborative partnerships forged with the Summit Police Department, Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad, and numerous local, county, state, and federal agencies. Chief Evers played an integral role in leading emergency operations and ensuring residents remained informed about fire safety. As Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator and Operations Chief for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Memorial Weekend, he brought national recognition to Summit's commitment to excellence.

Chief Evers leaves behind a legacy defined by significant achievements. Among these, his work to prioritize staffing, expand the department by hiring additional firefighters, and champion the completion of Summit's new, state-of-the-art fire station are especially notable. The new facility, equipped with advanced decontamination systems, enhanced training areas, and upgraded living spaces, stands as a testament to Chief Evers' vision and determination to protect both firefighters and Summit residents.

Throughout his career, Chief Evers received multiple valor awards, reflecting his unwavering dedication and heroism. His leadership inspired those around him and set a standard for bravery, professionalism, and service that will resonate throughout the community for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Chief Eric Evers on a well-earned retirement. We extend our best wishes for continued success and happiness in the years ahead. Summit is safer, stronger, and better because of Chief Evers' remarkable leadership and steadfast commitment to public service.

HONORING KRISHNI RYLAND

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Ms. Krishni Ryland as she celebrates a remarkable season of achievement marked by three significant milestones: earning a Master of Arts in Teaching degree in Secondary Education, publishing her first book, and beginning her teaching career as a Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education educator.

After faithfully serving our nation for 20 years in the United States Army, Ms. Ryland retired from military service and embarked upon a new journey centered on education, faith, and service to others. Her commitment to personal growth and lifelong learning is evident in her impressive academic accomplishments. Most recently, she entered a Master of Arts in Teaching degree in Secondary Education from Liberty University. Prior to this achievement, she earned a Master of Arts in Teaching degree in Secondary Education from Liberty University. Prior to this achievement, she earned bachelor's degrees in Business Administration and Religion, demonstrating her dedication to both professional excellence and spiritual development.

In addition to completing her master's degree, Ms. Ryland has become a published author with the release of her book, *Did God Really Say That? Unlearning What We Thought Was Scripture*. Through this work, she encourages readers to deepen their understanding of biblical teachings and challenges them to examine commonly held beliefs through the lens of Scripture. Continuing her mission of service, Ms. Ryland will begin her teaching career in the fall of 2026 as a Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education educator. In this role, she will have the opportunity to inspire, mentor, and equip the next generation of leaders and professionals. Her transition from military service to the class-

room reflects her enduring commitment to empowering others and strengthening communities through education.

Ms. Ryland is also the founder of Speak Life Outreach Ministries, a nonprofit organization dedicated to encouraging, uplifting, and transforming lives through faith-based outreach and biblical teaching. Through her ministry, she has touched countless individuals by sharing messages of hope, purpose, and spiritual growth.

A proud daughter of John and Shirley Meeks of Yazoo City, Mississippi, Ms. Ryland's accomplishments are a testament to the values of faith, perseverance, service, and dedication instilled in her throughout her life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join in congratulating Krishni Ryland on these extraordinary achievements and in celebrating her continued contributions to education, faith, and public service. Her life and work serve as an inspiration to all.

RECOGNIZING ADRIAN B. MCCLENNEY

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Adrian B. McClenney, a breast cancer survivor and the founder and president of the Miami, Florida, Chapter of Sisters Network Incorporated.

Mrs. McClenney was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2011. During treatment and her search to find support, she learned about Sisters Network, Inc., a national African American breast cancer survivorship organization. Its mission is to address the needs particular to African American women, the underinsured and the underserved around the country; by directly getting the message out that we must "stop the silence" about breast cancer, so women can start betting the odds. Mrs. McClenney contacted the organization and was so moved by their support of her, that in 2012, she founded the Miami Chapter of Sisters Network. The organization has since provided a strong support mechanism for hundreds of women with breast cancer and survivors in South Florida.

Experts estimate that about one out of every eight women born today will be diagnosed with breast cancer at some time during her life. The strongest risk factor for breast cancer is age. A woman's risk of developing this disease increases as she gets older. However, thanks to the work Mrs. McClenney is doing and improvements in cancer treatment and early detection, millions of women and thousands of men are surviving breast cancer today.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in the United States, other than skin cancer. It is the second leading cause of cancer death in women, after lung cancer. The disease occurs almost entirely in women, but men can get it, too. Today, there are more than 2.9 million breast cancer survivors in the United States.

I am honored to recognize Adrian B. McClenney, a breast cancer survivor and the founder and president of the Miami Chapter of Sisters Network, for her dedication and commitment to our community and fight against breast cancer.