

These efforts demonstrate the continued importance of a strong relationship between our two countries.

I am proud to be a friend of Uzbekistan and congratulate President Mirziyoyev and the Uzbek people as they celebrate 35 years of independence. I look forward to the continued growth of the friendship and partnership between the United States and Uzbekistan.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF MOUNT OLIVETTE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary celebration of Mount Olivette Missionary Baptist Church, a historic landmark in Miami, Florida's Overtown community.

The church was founded by the late Reverend S.A. Sampson on October 12, 1912, in the home of Reverend Sampson's brother, Nathaniel Sampson. Nathaniel Sampson is listed as one of the pioneers of the church along with Julia Dean, Remalia Ellis, Richard Johnson, Francis Smith, Albert Taylor and Ellen Ward. Reverend Sampson's 16-year-old daughter Irene Sampson was the recording secretary.

The congregation later moved to Mrs. Powell's schoolhouse on Avenue G and Woods Street, which is now Northwest 11th Street and 2nd Avenue. The church bell would ring from a pine tree to alert the congregation and the community about Sunday services, deaths and funerals.

In 1915, Mount Olivette Missionary Baptist Church relocated to its present site, at 1450 Northwest 1st Court. The church is now under the leadership of Reverend Franklin R. Clark, who was installed on August 12, 1979.

Since its founding in 1912, Mount Olivette Missionary Baptist Church has served as a cornerstone of the community. From humble beginnings, to one of the most respected churches in Miami's Overtown community, Mount Olivette continues to inspire and positively impact our community, through its spiritual, educational, cultural and social programs.

I am honored to pay tribute to Mount Olivette Missionary Baptist Church as it celebrates its 100th anniversary and a century of dedication and commitment to its members and Miami's Overtown community.

RECOGNIZING BERNADETTE BASCOM ON BEING AN EXCEPTIONAL MUSICIAN GIVING BACK

HON. KWEISI MFUME

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

Mr. MFUME. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bernadette Bascom, a native daughter of Baltimore who has dedicated her life to the performance of music and the education of young people.

She has used her God-given talents to entertain countless Americans and to help those with special needs find their voice, and next month, her adopted home of Bothell, Washington will recognize October 11 as Bernadette Bascom Day.

Bernadette was born in Baltimore, Maryland in 1962, the daughter of Lutherine Bascom, a music teacher, and one of Baltimore's greatest civil rights leaders, Rev. Marion C. Bascom of Douglas Memorial Community Church.

Rev. Bascom was a giant in the movement, marching alongside Dr. King, helping integrate Gwynn Oak Amusement Park, and serving as Baltimore's first Black fire commissioner. Rev. and Mrs. Bascom raised their daughter to share their values of justice, service, and the right of all people to dignity and respect.

Bernadette gravitated to music as a girl, with her mother sneaking her to rehearsals while Rev. Bascom insisted that she focus on her education. She began her career on the air as a disc jockey and a vocalist, but her big break came when she received an invitation to go on tour with The People's Choice.

Bernadette toured the West Coast that summer and, while in Seattle, fell in love with Washington State and decided to stay. She established herself in the local funk scene, touring the state with bands like Epicenter and Acapulco Gold.

While in Washington, she re-connected with a friend she had made while attending a Stevie Wonder concert in high school—Stevie Wonder himself. She had never sung for him, but after she sent him a recording of her voice, Stevie insisted that she become the first artist to sign onto his record label, Black Bull Music Inc.

From there, Bernadette's successful musical career accelerated, and she shared a stage with acclaimed musicians like Lenny Williams and Elton John. In 1981, she released her trademark single, "Seattle Sunshine/I Don't Wanna Lose Your Love," bringing her to a new pinnacle of fame.

Over the next several decades, Bernadette solidified herself as a working performer of the highest caliber. She spent over 15 years in Las Vegas, co-starring in the Divine Divas, and spent a decade performing with the Supremes at the Motown Café in New York.

In 2004, Bernadette made a career change and transitioned from the stage to the classroom. She helped launch the Music Project in Washington's Northshore School District, a program building an inclusive space in the world of music for kids with special needs.

In the years since, Bernadette has shepherded hundreds of young people through the program, using music to help them find their voice while imbuing them with self-esteem, life skills, and confidence. The program was so successful. Bernadette has worked with Microsoft to build the "SPEAK! Music As Language" app, bringing her multisensory teaching methods to the world.

In addition to her work with the Music Project, Bernadette is a professor of performance and voice at Northwest University. When she joined the university, she donated music manuals and songbooks worth over \$10,000 to the school library, and she has since provided vocal training to hundreds of NU students.

Bernadette has received numerous accolades and awards over the years, including a 2013 Emmy Award for a documentary about

the Music Project entitled "Bernadette's Touch." No doubt, more than any of the acclaim she has received, it is the impact that she has had on young people that brings Bernadette the most joy.

Mr. Speaker, Bernadette Bascom has lived a life devoted to creating art and serving others. She has helped countless young Americans embrace their voices and find joy in music, and she has more than earned the plaudits that she has received over her career. I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to her.

HONORING CHIEF FRANK CLAEYS ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE GAYLORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize Chief Frank Claeys on his retirement after twenty-nine years of selfless service to the City of Gaylord Police Department.

Chief Claeys began his career with the Gaylord Police Department as a Reserve Officer in 1996 before joining the department as a full-time Patrol Officer in the following year. As a testament to his enduring commitment to duty and exceptional leadership, Chief Claeys was promoted to Sergeant in 2013 and later appointed Chief of Police in 2019. At every stage of his career, he exemplified the highest standards of law enforcement, earning the respect of his fellow officers and the trust of his community through his integrity, professionalism, and steadfast dedication to public service.

As Chief of Police, Frank strengthened the Gaylord Police Department through meaningful initiatives that will benefit the community for many years to come. Under his leadership, the department reinstated participation in the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program, added a K-9 unit, enhanced departmental equipment, and recruited and mentored a new generation of law enforcement officers. His leadership has ensured the department remains well-equipped to meet the evolving needs of the community while fostering a culture of compassion, excellence, and commitment to service.

Whether working alongside fellow officers, partnering with community organizations, or assisting residents in times of need, he consistently demonstrated kindness, humility, and a deep sense of duty. His ability to build lasting relationships strengthened not only the Gaylord Police Department but the entire Gaylord community.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Chief Frank Claeys for his nearly three decades of honorable service and steadfast dedication to the people of Gaylord. On behalf of Michigan's 1st Congressional District, I congratulate him on his well-earned retirement and thank him for his enduring commitment to keeping our communities safe.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF
AMERICAN LEGION POST 41

HON. YASSAMIN ANSARI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

Ms. ANSARI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tony F. Soza/Ray Martinez American Legion Post 41, a pillar of service, patriotism, and community leadership in Arizona. For generations, Post 41 has exemplified the values of duty, sacrifice, and civic engagement, ensuring that the men and women who have worn our Nation's uniform continue to receive the support, respect, and fellowship they have earned.

American Legion Post 41 has long served as more than a gathering place for veterans, it has been a cornerstone of the community. Through advocacy, mentorship, commemorative events, youth engagement, and support for veterans and their families, the Post has strengthened the bonds between those who have served and the communities they call home. Its members have demonstrated that military service does not end with the completion of a tour of duty, but continues through a lifelong commitment to serving others.

As we honor Post 41, we also recognize the enduring contributions of Latino veterans, whose courage and dedication have helped shape the history of Arizona and the United States. From the battlefields of World War II to today's all-volunteer force, Latino servicemembers have answered our Nation's call with distinction, often overcoming barriers while serving with extraordinary valor. Their service has strengthened our Armed Forces and enriched our communities through leadership, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to our shared democratic values.

Arizona is home to a proud and vibrant Latino veteran community whose members continue to lead as entrepreneurs, educators, public servants, first responders, and mentors. Their legacy extends well beyond military service, inspiring future generations to embrace lives of service and civic responsibility. Organizations such as American Legion Post 41 play an essential role in preserving that legacy by providing a welcoming space where veterans can find camaraderie, advocacy, and opportunities to continue making a difference.

The work of American Legion Post 41 reminds us that supporting our veterans is not

merely an obligation, it reflects our Nation's highest ideals. Through its dedication to honoring those who served, promoting patriotism, and strengthening the community, the Post has made an enduring impact on Arizona and has helped ensure that the sacrifices of our veterans are never forgotten.

It is therefore my distinct honor to recognize Tony F. Soza/Ray Martinez American Legion Post 41 for its outstanding service to veterans, its steadfast commitment to the people of Arizona, and its role in uplifting the legacy of Latino veterans across our state and throughout our Nation. On behalf of the people of Arizona's 3rd Congressional District and a grateful Nation, I extend my sincere appreciation and best wishes for many more years of continued service and success.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BARRY
KLEIN CLARK

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor the life of Barry Klein Clark, who passed away on August 25, 2026, at the age of 60, surrounded by his family and friends in Philadelphia, Mississippi.

Born on December 3, 1965, Barry was raised in Union, Mississippi, by his parents, Chester and Lou Clark, alongside his sister, Lori. He graduated from Union High School and later earned a degree in business from Mississippi State University. An entrepreneur at heart, Barry pursued numerous business ventures before finding his passion in construction and ultimately establishing Viking Metal. His success was built on hard work, personal relationships, and the belief that a handshake and a person's word still meant something.

More than a businessman, Barry was known for his larger-than-life personality, generosity, and unwavering loyalty to those around him. He had a remarkable ability to turn friends into family and was someone others could count on when it mattered most. Above all, Barry was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend.

Barry is survived by his wife of 37 years, Melissa Clark; his sister, Lori Clark Porter; his

children, Garrett Clark and his wife, Tori; M.E. Myhre and her husband, David; and Peyton Clark and his wife, Olivia; and his grandchildren, Hatcher, Maris, Briggs, Anna Klein, James, Flynn, and Chet.

Barry Clark's devotion to his family, loyalty to his friends, and commitment to his community leave a lasting legacy. We honor his life and extend our deepest condolences to his family and all those fortunate enough to have known him.

HONORING THE LATE MR. JULIUS
LITTMAN

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I rise today to recognize and honor the late Mr. Julius Littman, a lifelong community leader in South Florida, entrepreneur, philanthropist, veteran, beloved son, husband, father, neighbor and friend.

Mr. Littman spent more than twenty-two years in public service as a Councilman and Vice-Mayor of the City of North Miami Beach. His service to the community extended beyond City Hall. For more than twenty-three years he served as Executive Director of Stop Hunger Incorporated, feeding over 27,000 low-income families and individuals in Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties monthly.

His support of the arts was a driving force behind the North Miami Beach Arts Theater, which in 2004, was renamed the Julius Littman Performing Arts Theater.

In addition to serving his community, Mr. Littman also served his country as a Captain in the United States Air Force in World War II.

Mr. Littman was born in South River, New Jersey, on May 2, 1923. He is survived by his longtime companion Tatyana Kats; daughter Phyllis Diskin and her husband Jonathan; sons, Paul and Gregory; grandchildren Jack, Harrison, Jeremy, Gabriel and Olivia.

Please join me in honoring the late Mr. Julius Littman for his commitment, dedication and service to our community and our country.