

the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board asked to purchase the church's property for the extension of McKinley Senior High School. The congregation agreed to the sale and located new property on Braddock Street, where, with dedicated and determined people and their pastor, they erected a new building and moved from "Fairview on the Hill" to 1636 Braddock Street. The new edifice was dedicated April 17 through 20, 1952.

Once again God's angel of death paid a visit to Fairview, and Reverend M.J. Hubbard was called to his eternal rest on April 12, 1953. The late Reverend Q.T. Ellis, who had been serving the congregation at Reverend Hubbard's request during his illness, was elected pastor on June 11, 1953. Under Reverend Ellis's guidance the church grew immensely, and the congregation purchased the lot adjacent to the building.

After many years under Reverend Ellis's leadership, the church undertook a major renovation. The first phase consisted of painting and replacing the roof, the second phase was a complete upgrade of the interior, with new pews, windows, pulpit furniture, and carpet giving the church a new look. On Sunday, October 27, 1985, the congregation rededicated Fairview to God and its founders, and members continued to work and contribute financially to the project's success. The mortgage financing the renovation was paid off in seven years, and with much determination and sacrifice, God blessed Reverend Ellis and his congregation to burn the mortgage on October 11, 1987.

On February 7, 1988, the congregation suffered the loss of its church building to a five-alarm fire that totally destroyed the structure, as many members stood and watched on that cold Sunday afternoon. Reverend Ellis advised the members to assemble the following Sunday at New Ark Baptist Church on Terrace Street, only a few blocks away, and the members of New Ark opened their doors and their hearts to give the congregation a place to worship. In May 1988, the church broke ground to begin construction of its new edifice, and many members purchased symbolic shovels of dirt as the new foundation was prepared. On Sunday, January 29, 1989, the congregation, led by the late Reverend Q.T. Ellis, marched from New Ark Baptist Church to its new home, a glorious day attended by members of the East Baton Rouge Ministers Conference along with family and friends who gathered to dedicate the new church to God.

In 1995, additional property adjacent to the church was purchased, and it was paid off by 1996, another example of the Lord's blessing upon Fairview in a short period of time. In the history of the church, Fairview had at that point had the service of only four pastors. As Reverend Ellis advanced in age, the deacons of the church sought the services of Reverend Bennie Veal, Jr., as assistant pastor, and God also blessed Fairview to receive the calling of Minister Johnnie R. Griffin, who served as a pulpit associate.

As Reverend Ellis's health began to fail, Fairview moved to elevate him to Pastor Emeritus, and a celebration in his honor was held on Sunday, July 5, 2003, when he retired after fifty years of loyal and dedicated service. The church then searched for a new full-time pastor, and on December 14, 2003, Reverend Keith B. Coward was installed as the new pastor of Fairview Missionary Baptist Church.

Under Pastor Coward, the church continued to grow, with many new members among its young people, and he brought a new leadership style through religious institutes and revivals.

Fairview Baptist Church has always stood on a solid foundation as a spirit-filled congregation, able through the years to bounce back from any adversity that has come its way. Looking back to the founders who made the ultimate sacrifice to build this church, the congregation reviews its goals and achievements, its battles fought and won, with thankful hearts for all of God's blessings. The gospel has been proclaimed within these hallowed walls, and many souls have come to Christ through them, many members have passed on to their reward, their earthly hardships forever gone, and the congregation remains mindful of the saints of years past as it looks toward its ultimate destination in Heaven.

Reverend Keith B. Coward resigned as pastor on January 18, 2009, following Holy Communion, and Minister Johnnie R. Griffin was elected Interim Pastor, giving loyal service to the church until a search committee could be formed. After the search committee screened a number of applicants, Reverend Gus Charles Spurlock, Sr., was elected the new pastor of Fairview Missionary Baptist Church during a called business meeting on Tuesday, November 24, 2009, standing on the promises of God on a solid and firm foundation. Pastor Spurlock was installed during a ceremony led by the Fourth District Missionary Baptist Association on Sunday, January 24, 2010, becoming the sixth pastor of Fairview Missionary Baptist Church.

Pastor Spurlock came to the congregation with great vision and proved to be a teaching leader, holding various training workshops, each backed by Scripture, for church leaders and members interested in developing their respective ministries. Pastor Spurlock has also proven himself a mentor to young people, who have embraced him as both pastor and mentor as they pursue their development as Christians preparing for future generations.

Under Pastor Spurlock's leadership, "The View" continues to work toward the mark of a higher calling in Christ Jesus, with a vision that includes building a Multipurpose Q.T. Ellis Christian Education Center to provide senior citizen enhancement programs, tutoring for children, and developmental programs for the disadvantaged, among other services. Fairview Baptist Church was founded on a firm foundation by Christian men and women who were determined as they struggled through hard times to establish the solid legacy and wonderful memories that endure today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Fairview Baptist Church for more than ninety years of faithful service, and in wishing its pastor and congregation continued blessings in the years to come.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN
HERO KELLER HIGH SCHOOL
BASEBALL TEAM

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, the Kel-

ler Indians baseball team as the Texas High School State Champions for the first time in program history.

On June 6, they secured the Class 6A Division 1 title with a 2-1 victory over Austin Lake Travis. Led by Championship MVP Cole Koeninger, a Tennessee signee and MLB draft prospect, Keller completed an incredible season with a 40-4-2 overall record.

The title concludes Head Coach Rob Stramp's remarkable 28-year career and serves as a testament to the dedication and leadership he brought to Keller Baseball. Congratulations to the Keller High School Indians on this historic achievement, which reflects the talent, hard work, and commitment of the entire program.

CELEBRATING IAPMO'S 100TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) as it celebrates its 100th anniversary.

In 1926, 39 plumbing inspectors founded IAPMO in Los Angeles with a mission of mitigating public health concerns caused by the city's plumbing practices and improving health safety by setting uniform plumbing regulations. In 1945, these efforts led to the development of the Uniform Plumbing Code, which has served Californians by promoting safe plumbing systems. Today, this framework serves as the foundation for plumbing regulations implemented across four continents and is viewed as one of the world's leading model plumbing codes.

Today, IAPMO proudly calls the Inland Empire home, with its headquarters in the heart of my district: Ontario, California. Having grown from a local association of plumbing inspectors to a global nonprofit organization, it maintains a deep commitment to serving California's communities, industries, and labor force. They continuously advance environmental and public safety through plumbing, mechanical codes, product certification, and workforce development—helping to ensure people have access to safe drinking water and reliable sanitation.

The organization partners with local governments, industry, and building professionals to strengthen the safety and resilience of communities throughout our great state. Its presence in the Inland Empire has supported high-quality technical and professional jobs while reinforcing Southern California's leadership in building safety, product innovation, and public health. Through its codes, standards, and other innovations, IAPMO has advanced California's goals for drought resiliency, water conservation, and more affordable housing through efficient plumbing systems. One example is IAPMO's Water Demand Calculator, a modern, statistically based method for estimating water demand and properly sizing plumbing systems. The tool helps conserve water and energy, protect water quality, and reduce residential construction costs.

IAPMO's work has been instrumental to California's leadership in public health, water

conservation, housing, and infrastructure. Their Water Efficiency and Sanitation Standard (WE-Stand) provides a voluntary framework for the safe and efficient use of water in residential and commercial buildings. The standard demonstrates IAPMO's commitment to water stewardship by helping communities conserve potable water, expand safe onsite water reuse, and make greater use of alternative water sources.

Its programs strengthen career opportunities throughout California while helping ensure a highly skilled workforce for the state's growing construction and manufacturing sectors through education, personnel certification, apprenticeship support, and professional training for plumbers, engineers, contractors, and other building professionals who contribute to the health and safety of Californians.

Not only does IAPMO play a vital role throughout California, but its world-renowned Uniform Codes advance public health and safety around the world. The organization works with governments and industry to remove technical barriers to trade and promote greater alignment of standards and market-access requirements. These efforts strengthen global supply chains, expand opportunities for American manufacturers, and increase access to safe, high-quality plumbing products. In recognition of these contributions, IAPMO received the President's "E" Award for Export Service in 2019 and the President's "E Star" Award for continued excellence in export expansion in 2024. Its global commitment extends even further through its charitable foundation, the International Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Foundation (IWSH), which provides humanitarian assistance to those in need of safe water and sanitation.

For their remarkable contributions throughout the Inland Empire and beyond, it is my honor to recognize IAPMO as it celebrates its 100th anniversary. The organization's commitment to advancing public health and safety is worthy of the highest commendation.

RECOGNIZING MAXAMUS DEGRANDE

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maxamus DeGrande for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Maxamus has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Maxamus, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Maxamus's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Maxamus DeGrande on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING CAPITAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a steadfast congregation in my district, Capital Missionary Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, as it marks more than six decades of preaching, discipleship, and service to our community.

The history of Capital Missionary Baptist Church begins in 1964, when the late Reverend E.B. Robertson answered God's call to establish a house of worship in the city of Baton Rouge. The young congregation gathered on a street then known as Capital Avenue, the thoroughfare that gave the church the name it still carries today. That street is now known as Gus Young Avenue, but the name Capital has remained fixed to the church as a permanent reminder of where God first planted this people.

What began as a small body of believers was built on the plain preaching of the Word, fervent prayer, and the sacrificial giving of members who had far more faith than they had resources. Reverend Robertson led with a pastor's heart and a builder's vision, and under his ministry the church grew in number, strength, and reputation throughout the surrounding community.

In the early 1970s, the congregation's growth and the changing landscape of the city made a move necessary. The church relocated to Avenue D in the Scotlandville community of North Baton Rouge, and there Capital Missionary Baptist Church put down deep roots. For roughly three decades, the Avenue D location served as the congregation's spiritual home. It was there that generations were baptized, married, and buried; there that children were raised in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; and there that the church established itself as a steady and trusted presence in North Baton Rouge. The Avenue D years were years of formation, the seasons in which the character, worship, and mission of the congregation were shaped.

In 1993, the mantle of pastoral leadership passed to the founder's son, Dr. Ronald L. Robertson, Sr. What his father had begun in faith, his son was called to continue, an uncommon and God-ordained succession that joined the founding vision of one generation to the leadership of the next without breaking stride. Under Dr. Robertson's pastorate, Capital Missionary Baptist Church has expanded its ministry, deepened its teaching, and broadened its reach into the community, remaining anchored to the same convictions that marked its founding: sound of doctrine, faithful preaching, and genuine care for people, even as it presses forward into new seasons of service.

In 2002, the vision carried and prayed over for years became visible in brick and mortar. The present sanctuary was constructed on thirteen acres of land, a facility built not merely to seat a congregation, but to serve a community and accommodate the growth of ministries yet to come. That campus stands today as a monument to what God can do through a people who will not quit. From a small gathering on Capital Avenue, to a faithful congregation on Avenue D, to a thirteen-acre campus

today, the hand of the Lord has been evident at every step.

More than six decades after its founding, Capital Missionary Baptist Church remains committed to the mission entrusted to it: to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, teach the whole counsel of God, make disciples, and serve the city of Baton Rouge. The buildings have changed and the streets have been renamed, but the calling has not moved. The congregation honors the memory of its founder, the late Reverend E.B. Robertson, and gives thanks for every member, living and departed, whose labor, offering, and prayer built what stands today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to Join me in honoring Capital Missionary Baptist Church for more than six decades of faithful service, and in wishing its pastor and congregation continued blessings in the years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE HONORABLE CHARLES FLOYD HATCHER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life, the service, and the enduring legacy of my predecessor and my friend, the Honorable Charles Floyd Hatcher, who passed from labor to reward on September 1, 2026, in Alexandria, Virginia, surrounded by the family he adored. He was 87 years old. A funeral service to celebrate his remarkable and purpose filled life will be held on Thursday, September 10, 2026, at the Camilla United Methodist Church in Camilla, Georgia.

Charles Hatcher was born on July 1, 1939, in Doerun, Georgia, to Clifford Edward "C.E." Hatcher and Agnes Faircloth Hatcher. He was a son of the soil in the truest sense—raised among the peanut fields and dirt roads of Baker and Mitchell Counties, in a corner of Southwest Georgia where a man's word was his bond and a neighbor's trouble was your own. He carried that country's upbringing with him for the rest of his days. No matter how many decades passed or how many miles he traveled, Charles Hatcher always found his way back home.

He answered his country's call first, serving in the United States Air Force from 1958 to 1962. He then earned his bachelor's degree from Georgia Southern University and his law degree from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1969. He built a thriving law practice in Albany, but the courtroom could not contain a calling that large. He served the people of Georgia in the State House of Representatives from 1973 to 1980, and was then elected to this body, where he represented Georgia's Second Congressional District for six terms.

Mr. Speaker, in these halls Charles Hatcher was a champion of the farmer, the rural family, and the small-town South. He understood that the peanut growers and row-crop farmers of Southwest Georgia were not statistics in an agriculture bill—they were his people. When his service in this House concluded, he did not retire from the work. He continued it as a presidential appointee at the United States