

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

Department of Agriculture during the Clinton administration, still fighting for the land and the people who work it.

I would be remiss, Mr. Speaker, if I did not speak plainly about something. In 1992, Charles Hatcher and I were opponents for this very seat. Elections in our part of Georgia are hard-fought, and ours was no exception. But when it was over, Charles Hatcher showed me—and showed our district—the kind of man he was. There was no bitterness in him. There was no small-mindedness in him. He handed me a district he loved and a people he had served faithfully, and he wished me well in doing it. In almost fifty years of public life, I have learned that you can measure a man's character by how he carries a loss. By that measure, Charles Hatcher was a giant.

The titles never defined him. What defined him was the way he made people feel. He never met a stranger. He had a gift—and I mean a genuine gift—for making a person feel welcomed, valued, and heard. Whether he was walking the marbled halls of this Capitol, sitting at a kitchen table or visiting with his neighbors at Marina Towers, Charles Hatcher built relationships and brought people together. In retirement he enjoyed his golf, but he never stopped giving himself away. He delivered for Meals on Wheels. He gave his time to charitable causes. He was a faithful member of Washington Street United Methodist Church in Alexandria, Virginia.

Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey once said that the moral test of government is how it treats those in the dawn of life, the children; those in the twilight of life, the elderly; and those in the shadows of life, the sick, the needy, and the handicapped. Mr. Speaker, Charles Hatcher passed that test—not only as a legislator casting votes on this floor, but as a man carrying a hot meal up a walkway to somebody who had nobody else coming. That is what a public servant looks like when the cameras are gone and the title has expired.

The greatest beneficiaries of his love were the family he treasured. He is survived by his beloved wife, Krysta Harden; his sons, Chuck and his wife, Tracey, and Jon and his wife, Kris; his five grandchildren, Ansley, Chase, Boone, Tingen, and Walker; and his brother, Marcus Hatcher and his wife, Joy. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Polly Hatcher—a grief no father should have to carry, and one he bore with quiet grace—as well as his parents, C.E. and Agnes Hatcher, and his siblings, Clifford “Bubba” Hatcher, Irma Carr, Grace Adkins, and Glenn Hatcher.

Mr. Speaker, the peanut fields of this country will bloom again this year, and the men and women who work them will never know all that Charles Hatcher did on their behalf. That is the nature of faithful service—most of it goes unseen and unthanked. But it is written down somewhere, and it is written down here today.

Therefore, on behalf of my wife, Vivian, and me along with the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the extraordinary life of the Honorable Charles Floyd Hatcher, in extending our deepest sympathy to Krysta and to the entire Hatcher family, and in saying of this good and faithful servant: well done.

HONORING MRS. JACQUELINE MILITO DEMARCO

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jacqueline Milito DeMarco on the remarkable occasion of her 100th birthday. Mrs. DeMarco's century of life—marked by devotion to family and service to the Bernardsville community—deserves recognition.

Born one of nine children, Mrs. DeMarco was raised in a hardworking Italian-American family. Her father immigrated to Liberty Corner and purchased 100 acres of farmland, instilling in his children the values of perseverance, industry, and family unity that have guided Mrs. DeMarco throughout her long and full life.

While working at the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, she met Robert DeMarco. They married in 1960 and, two years later, settled in Bernardsville. There they raised their two children, Lisa and Robert, in the home where Mrs. DeMarco continues to live today. After more than six decades of marriage, Mr. DeMarco passed away in 2023 at the age of 93.

In Bernardsville, Mrs. DeMarco became a familiar and beloved presence through her years of service as a cashier in the elementary school cafeteria. Beyond her work, she has long found joy in knitting—a pastime that has remained a constant source of comfort and creativity.

Mrs. DeMarco's 100th birthday stands as a milestone of an extraordinary life well lived—one filled with family, community, and treasured memories.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Jacqueline Milito DeMarco on this historic occasion. We extend our warmest wishes to Mrs. DeMarco, her children, and all her family and loved ones, and we recognize with gratitude a century of dignity, devotion, and a life that has enriched the Bernardsville community.

RECOGNIZING JR. GARLING

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

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

Jr. 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 Jr., develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Jr.'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 Jr. Garling on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING BELFAIR BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Belfair Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, a congregation founded through the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Reverend Alvin A. Francois and Sister Josie F. Francois were given a vision to organize a community church, and even before the first service, they named the future edifice Belfair Baptist Church because of its future location within the Belfair Community.

On August 6, 1972, the first service was held across the street from the church's current location at 4444 Fairfields Avenue in one of the buildings owned by the Seventh Day Adventist Church. The church grew steadily in its early years, strengthened by God's blessings and the dedication of its members. Since that first worship service in 1972, Belfair Baptist Church has continued to thrive as a place of worship, fellowship, and spiritual growth.

On June 2, 2002, Pastor Alvin A. Francois appointed Jon D. Bennett as pastor-elect of Belfair Baptist Church and subsequently installed him on September 8, 2002. Led by the Holy Spirit, Pastor Bennett has continued in the church's rich legacy of biblical teaching, expository preaching, missions, and prayer while redirecting the church's focus on its role in the family, the community, the state, and the world through a holistic approach to ministry. Under his visionary leadership, the BBC GROW Ministry was birthed with a strong focus on evangelism, discipleship, and worship, and new ministries have been established while existing ministries have been revitalized to further the church's mission.

Belfair's future remains filled with hopeful anticipation as the congregation walks by faith and stands on the promises of God. Together, the church has witnessed sinners come to Christ, new believers join the ministry, and committed Christians mature in the Word of God. In keeping with its motto, Belfair is a church that is ‘Building lives on the Word of God.’ Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Belfair Baptist Church for its decades of service, devotion, and faith, and in wishing its pastor, leadership, and congregation continued blessings in the years to come.

CELEBRATING DOUG STOCKS' 48-YEAR BOOKSELLING CAREER

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Doug Stocks, one of the most experienced booksellers in Silicon Valley, on his retirement after 48 years. I wish to include in the RECORD the following excerpt from Ron Charles' article:

Last week, while visiting our elder daughter in Santa Clara, Calif., I overheard a bookseller at Books Inc. say he was retiring. In fact, everyone in the store heard him.

Doug Stocks is not the fading, whispering figure of some dusty Masterpiece Theatre