HONORING EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Ebenezer Baptist Church of South Baton Rouge, Louisiana, a congregation whose beginnings date back to November 12, 1926, when a group of devout Christians met at the home of Sister Louvenia Green to establish a place of worship. The late Reverend Johnny Banks, one of the organizers, was elected as the church's first pastor. Ebenezer Baptist Church was formally incorporated on July 30, 1931, and Reverend Banks served faithfully until his passing in 1960. Leadership continued under Reverend Johnny Cyrus, who served until his death in that same year, followed briefly by Reverend Joseph Martin, assistant pastor, until the election of Reverend John H. Thomas, II, who guided the church forward until July 1971.

In August 1971, Reverend Q.T. Ellis was elected pastor, with Reverend Lemmie Washington serving as assistant pastor. Following Reverend Washington's death, Reverend Alex Banks assumed the role of assistant pastor. Under Reverend Ellis's leadership, the church progressed spiritually and structurally. In 1985, a major addition was completed including a pastor's study, secretary's office, dressing rooms, restrooms, a dining and kitchen facility, and expanded parking. After Reverend Ellis's resignation in May 1988, Reverend Banks served briefly as interim pastor until Reverend Ellis was re-elected in March 1989. Weekly Bible study was instituted as a core part of Ebenezer's spiritual development. Reverend Banks later became pastor of Christ Land Baptist Church, and Reverend William Armstead was elected assistant pastor.

On May 7, 2000, Reverend Q.T. Ellis became Pastor Emeritus, and Reverend Ronald A. Sutton was elected pastor. Under Reverend Sutton's leadership, the church developed its motto, mission, and vision statement, and the membership increased through Baptism and Christian Experience. In 2002, the church's name was changed to Ebenezer Baptist Church of South Baton Rouge. Reverend Sutton proposed remodeling the sanctuary, and construction began in January 2004, resulting in a new sanctuary, pews, organ, electronic piano, updated sound system, and additional parking. During construction, Greater Mt. Gideon Baptist Church and Greater Pleasant Green Baptist Church graciously opened their doors for worship and Bible study. By June 12, 2004, Ebenezer returned to its newly renovated home. In subsequent years, properties were purchased and improved along Carolina Street and Missouri Street as part of continued campus development.

Mr. Speaker, Ebenezer Baptist Church of South Baton Rouge continues to stand as a pillar of service, faith, and community engagement. In January 2025, the church implemented its 'Community Conversation' series addressing gun violence, education, domestic violence, voting, and economic development. In April and May 2025, Ebenezer hosted COPE training to strengthen community empathy and engagement. In January 2026, the church hosted a three-month Community Trauma Awareness Summit addressing mental health, stress, anxiety, depression, and suicide. On November 15, 2026, Ebenezer Baptist Church will celebrate its 100th Centennial Anniversary—giving honor to God for the abundant spiritual and financial blessings bestowed upon the congregation. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ebenezer Baptist Church of South Baton Rouge for a century of faith, resilience, and devotion to carrying out the purpose of the Church as the light of the world and the salt of the earth.

RECOGNIZING JD CAMACHO RODRIGUEZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2026

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

JD 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 JD, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to JD's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr/Sr High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate JD Camacho Rodriguez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF PHELPS HEALTH

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2026

Mr. SMITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 75th anniversary of Phelps Health —one of Southeast Missouri's oldest rural hospitals—and its commitment to serving the people of Missouri's 8th Congressional District.

Phelps Health was opened in 1951 as Phelps County Memorial Hospital, serving over 30 patients in just the first three days. What started as a small, 63-bed facility now boasts cutting-edge technology, ever-expanding services, and partnerships with facilities across the state.

For the past 75 years, Phelps Health and its staff have shown their devotion to the people of Phelps County, acting as examples of innovation, compassion, and service. This dedication is shown through their mission to reimagine rural healthcare and create lasting solutions to consistent challenges.

As Phelps Health celebrates this remarkable milestone, it looks to the next 75 years of prioritizing modernization and innovation. The staff and volunteers of this facility have shown time and time again how valuable a dedication to selfless service can be to a community. Their mission is simple: provide high-quality, accessible healthcare through empathy, hard work, and a devotion to helping folks in this region.

It is an honor and a privilege to recognize Phelps Health on this historic anniversary, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the staff, volunteers, and community members who have made this historic moment possible.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEWIS BEAR COMPANY

HON. JIMMY PATRONIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2026

Mr. PATRONIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a true Northwest Florida institution, The Lewis Bear Company, which is celebrating 150 years of serving Northwest Florida.

For generations, the Bear family has been part of the fabric of the Panhandle. In 1876, Lewis Bear, opened a small grocery and chandlery shop on South Palafox Street. What he started 150 years ago has grown into a family business that continues to serve Northwest Florida today. That kind of longevity does not happen by accident. It takes hard work and a commitment to the community you call home.

The Lewis Bear Company has grown and changed with Northwest Florida, but it has never lost sight of its roots. Today, five generations later, the company employs hundreds of Floridians and serves thousands of businesses throughout the region.

But the Bear family's legacy is about much more than business. They have consistently given their time, resources, and energy to organizations across our community, helping make Northwest Florida a better place.

As someone who is proud to serve Northwest Florida, I know how much companies like Lewis Bear mean to our region. They are a reminder that when a family builds a business, they are not just building something for themselves, they are building something for the community and for the generations that follow.

For 150 years, the Lewis Bear Company has been a part of the story of Northwest Florida. I congratulate the Bear family and everyone who has been part of this incredible legacy on this remarkable milestone. I look forward to seeing the Lewis Bear Company continue its tradition of serving our community for generations to come.

CELEBRATING THE 30TH ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY OF FATHER JIMMY DRENNAN

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2026

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the Ordination of Father Jimmy Drennan. A leader guided by grace, hope and compassion. Father Jimmy's commitment to service embodies an unyielding dedication to ensuring the spiritual growth of our San Antonio community.

Father Jimmy's life of service has taken many roles throughout his life. As a student at

Highlands High School in San Antonio, he served as the school's mascot for three years, encouraging joy and community among his peers. He also served in the Student Council and as Class Vice-President his senior year,

Outside of school, Father Jimmy developed a love for the Roman Catholic faith by the following the powerful examples of his mother, Anne Drennan, and his grandmother Cecil. At the age of 17, he made the Sacrament of Baptism at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, the same parish where he currently serves as Pastor.

As a young adult, Father Jimmy's commitment to service took the form of a police officer with the San Antonio Police Department from 1985 to 1991. After seven years as an officer, he felt his calling to the Priesthood and entered the Assumption Seminary. On May 10, 1996, Father Jimmy was ordained by the Archdiocese of San Antonio.

Father Jimmy's time as a priest has seen him take multiple roles throughout the archdiocese. He has served as pastor of St. Paul Catholic Church, St, Joseph Catholic Church—Honey Creek, and St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church. He has also held administrative roles across the archdiocese. He serves as the Spiritual Director for the First Responder focused Shields of Christ ACTS Teams and was the Chaplain to former San Antonio Police Chief William McManus.

Father Jimmy has also dedicated himself to serving the San Antonio community. He is a Board Member for Project Quest, a workforce development organization. For over thirty years, he has been a trusted leader with the COPS-Metro Alliance. He is also an outspoken advocate for the immigrant communities.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebration of a pastoral career dedicated to serving one's community. For over thirty years, Father Jimmy has been a source of hope and inspiration to many, and I am grateful for all he has done for our San Antonio community.

CONGRESSIONAL FIRE SERVICES CAUCUS RECOGNIZES THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2026

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my fellow House co-chairs—Representative FITZPATRICK, Representative HOYER, Representative LARSON—and the entire Congressional Fire Services Caucus to recognize the 25th anniversary of September 11, 2001.

On that tragic morning, nearly 3,000 innocent lives—including 343 members of the fire and emergency services—were taken in acts of terrorism that shook our country to its core. As co-chairs of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, we stand today, 25 years later, to remember every individual loss, every family forever changed by unimaginable tragedy, and every community that continues to carry the weight of that day.

As we reflect on the events of September 11th, we pay special tribute to America's first responders. In a time of fear, confusion, and turmoil, members of the fire and emergency services rushed toward danger with unwavering resolve. They did not hesitate. They answered the call knowing the risks, guided by a profound commitment to protecting lives.

On 9/11, hundreds of firefighters and EMS providers made the ultimate sacrifice while carrying out their duty. Their courage became a defining symbol of American heroism, reminding us that the measure of service is found not in words, but in selfless action. The courage displayed by these first responders inspired millions and reminded us that hope is strongest when we stand together. In those moments of profound uncertainty, neighbors helped neighbors, communities rallied together, and Americans from every walk of life stood united in compassion and resilience.

We also honor the thousands of first responders who labored tirelessly in the days, weeks, and months that followed. Amid smoke, debris, and uncertainty, they searched for survivors, recovered the fallen, comforted grieving families, and helped a wounded Nation begin the long process of healing. Many have since faced life-threatening illnesses and chronic health conditions resulting from their service. Their sacrifices did not end when the recovery efforts concluded, and our Nation's obligation to care for them remains as enduring as their commitment to us.

In the years since September 11th, that obligation has taken many forms. The Congressional Fire Services Caucus has worked to ensure that the needs of America's first responders remain a priority in Washington, D.C.—advocating for the resources, protections, benefits, and support they need to serve their communities and return home safely. The work of the Fire Services Caucus reflects a responsibility that extends far beyond any single anniversary: to understand the needs and challenges of our local fire and EMS personnel, to stand with those who stand ready to protect us, and to ensure that our Nation does not forget the sacrifices made every day in service to others.

Across our cities, towns, and rural communities, first responders answer emergency calls regardless of what awaits them at the scene. They respond to fires, medical emergencies, hazardous material incidents, natural disasters, and much more with the same dedication and sense of duty that defined those who responded on September 11th. The work of the fire and emergency services is indispensable to the safety and well-being of every American.

To the younger generations who know September 11th only through history, we must preserve not only the memory of that day, but also the guiding example set by those who responded, The legacy of September 11th is one of courage over fear, service over self, and unity over division.

Today, we honor the individuals whose lives were cut short, the families who continue to bear their loss, and the first responders whose bravely became a lasting testament to the best of America. May we never forget their sacrifice. May we continue to support those who wear the uniform of the fire and emergency services. And may we strive each day to keep building a Nation worthy of the courage they displayed on one of our country's darkest days.

HONORING MISS ADDISON HUMPHREYS FOR DISTINGUISHED ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2026

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Miss Addison Humphreys of McAllen, Texas, a member of the McAllen High School Class of 2027, whose academic excellence, leadership, and service reflect the very best of South Texas.

Miss Humphreys ranks among the top four percent of her graduating class, which has more than 470 students, and has pursued a rigorous course of study in preparation for a future in medicine. As State President of Texas HOSA—Future Health Professionals, she represents more than 51,000 students across 1,570 chapters and is the first student in McAllen Independent School District and Hidalgo County history to hold both area and state HOSA office.

Her commitment to service extends far beyond the classroom. She founded Books2Border, a youth-led literacy initiative that has distributed more than 5,500 books and 20 laptops, established five community libraries, rebuilt school libraries in Reynosa, Tamaulipas, Mexico, and expanded educational opportunities for more than 2,500 students in Mexico.

Overall, Miss Humphreys has also completed more than 1,300 documented hours of community service. Through DHR Health's LASER program, she is researching childhood obesity and Type II diabetes risk in the Rio Grande Valley, has been selected to present her work internationally, and has helped educate more than 2,500 students about stroke recognition.

South Texas is home to countless young people with big dreams and a desire to make a difference. Miss Humphreys is a fine example of that promise, reflecting the hard work, compassion, and spirit of service that define our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Miss Addison Humphreys for her distinguished academic achievement, leadership, and service, and I wish her continued success in the years ahead. She has a bright future ahead of her and has made South Texas proud.

CELEBRATING REVEREND DR. NAOMI TYLER-LLOYD'S 21ST PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2026

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Dr. Naomi Tyler-Lloyd as she celebrates her 21st Pastoral Anniversary at Trinity Baptist Church in the Bronx.

For more than two decades, Pastor Naomi has faithfully led her congregation with compassion, wisdom, and an unwavering commitment to serving both God and her community.