the Laredo community. His work is helping expand educational opportunities, strengthen our university, and prepare the next generation of leaders in South Texas.

I congratulate Dr. Maynard on his accomplishments and thank him for his service to Texas A&M International University and the Laredo community.

RECOGNIZING YULIIA ZHEMELKO

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

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

Yuliia has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Yuliia, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Yuliia'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 Yuliia Zhemelko on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING MR. LAMONT S. SNYDER

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I rise today to recognize Mr. Lamont S. Snyder in honor of "Teacher Appreciation Week." Mr. Lamont Snyder, a constituent of District 24, is a noted visionary, a well-respected mentor and father figure and a nationally recognized Music teacher and Band Director at Hallandale High School in Broward County, Florida.

Mr. Snyder's leadership and dedication turned a small fledgling high school band of amateur players into a nationally recognized and talented organization of skilled musicians and performers. The band has competed in and won numerous competitions, marched in the acclaimed Orange Bowl Parade and entertained thousands of people across the country.

Mr. Snyder's devotion and accomplishments earned him the Mr. Holland' Opus Foundation Award in 2004 that was presented to him at New Yolk City's Carnegie Hall. Every year the foundation recognizes the five best band directors in the country.

In 2014, Mr. Snyder marked his 17th year as a Broward County School Band Director. He has used music to instill in his students self-discipline, self-confidence, self-motivation, drive and determination for excellence in everything they do.

He has built a support system, that holds parents, students, alumni, and friends. They allowed the band to flourish and remain competitive. More importantly, it serves as a safe and positive avenue for the students, many of whom have gone on to earn music scholarships to schools like Bethune-Cookman University, Florida State University and Florida A & M University.

Mr. Snyder is a native of Miami, Florida and a graduate of Miami Carol City High School He received a Master's degree in Music from Florida Memorial College.

Mr. Snyder is married to Connie Snyder and is the father of five children: Venita, Lakinya, Regina, Celisse and Lamont, Jr. He is also a grandfather, son, brother and uncle.

Please join me in honoring Mr. Lamont S. Snyder for his commitment to our children, their education and musical enlightenment and for his commitment to our community.

HONORING RICHARDSON CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richardson Chapel Church of God in Christ, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

With a mind and heart to serve God's People through holiness, Elder Willie and Sister Clarissa Richardson began to gather the people and tell them of holiness in 1917. Sister Richardson would visit homes, read the Bible to the housewives, and help them with their chores to have more time to talk to them. The group of saints held services at several homes and places in Scotlandville. They even worshipped in a brush harbor. As the group increased, they rented a hall to have service.

Haggai 1:7–8 reads 'thus said the Lord of hosts; consider your ways. Go up to the mountain and bring wood, and build the house, and I will be glorified, said the Lord.' Considering the ways of the Lord, the group decided to build a church building that the Lord would take pleasure in it. Elder Winbush served as pastor of the group as the money was being collected. Two lots were purchased. Elder James Edwards of Amite, Louisiana served as the next pastor and was blessed to see the building of the church in 1929. Then, it was called the Church of God in Christ. After the church was built, Elder Edwards pastored for five years.

Following Elder Edwards, Elder Stampley of Baton Rouge received an appointment from Bishop Lazard to pastor the church in the Scotlandville community. He remained for one year. The church then experienced much transition with various ministers leading the congregation including Elder Williams Holmes, Elder J. Davis, Elder E.C. Pounds, Elder Willie Graves, Elder E.D. Robinson, and Elder D.A. Morgan.

In 1939, Elder W.K. Gordon, Sr. received the appointment. During the pastorage of each of these ministers, Elder Richardson served as a faithful assistant and Sister Richardson as a consecrated church mother until their respective deaths. Elder W.K. Gordon, Sr. seemed to have been the Lord's choice for Scotlandville, in that the church grew tremendously under his leadership. When he came, the church was in need of repairs. He immediately set to work to correct this. New windows were put in and siding was added. In 1949, another renovation was done. During this renovation, a tilt was discovered in the church's structure. Then-Pastor Gordon brought in his minor son, C.H., and began the tedious task of restoring the structure to a workable position. Little was known that thirty years later, this lad would become Co-Pastor and Pastor.

After the deaths of its beloved founders, the church was renamed Richardson Chapel Church of God in Christ in their honor. After being 75 years old, 55 years in the ministry, and having built ten churches, now-Bishop W.K. Gordon, Sr. dreamed of building a new edifice at Scotlandville. His dream was fulfilled by that same son who at age fifteen helped secure a tilt during the 1949 renovation. In 1980, Elder Charles H. Gordon was appointed Pastor. God gave Pastor Gordon the vision to build a new edifice where he served as the General Contractor. The new edifice was completed and dedicated on May 18, 1986. Following the death of Pastor (then-Auxiliary Bishop) Charles H. Gordon in May 2023, Bishop Alphonso Denson, Sr., prelate of Louisiana Eastern First Jurisdiction, stepped in to serve as Pastor. In March 2025, Elder Leonard Powell, Sr. was appointed Pastor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Richardson Chapel Church for their dedication to their community, and service in spreading of the word of God.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO IRVING POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, the Irving Police Department, who keep our community safe day in and day out. The Irving PD welcomed new Officers to the force, as well as celebrated multiple well-deserved promotions.

I congratulate Senior Communications Officer Sias, who was promoted to Emergency Communications Supervisor, Sergeant Jones, who was promoted to Lieutenant, and Officers Lemarie, Williams, Johnson, Seaton, and Reyes, who were all promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

We also want to welcome Officers Bodine, Flint, Guerrero, Sanchez, and lateral addition Officer Flores, as they take this step in their careers in public service. We wish them the very best in their career in law enforcement.

We thank all those who serve the Irving Police Department for their dedication and service to our North Texas community.

RECOGNIZING OLHA ZHEMELKO

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

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

Olha has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Olha, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Olha'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 Olha Zhemelko on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. HARCOURT IRVIN CLARK, SR.

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of the late Mr. Harcourt Irvin Clark, Sr., a trailblazer, patriot, loving husband, father, grandfather and friend.

Mr. Clark was born on December 23, 1934, to the late Zena Marie Sawyer-Clark and Irwin Harcourt ''Christmas'' Clark in Coconut Grove, Florida. He was educated in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

Mr. Clark worked tirelessly to make a difference in the community he loved. He became the first African-American police officer in the city of Coral Gables, Florida. Determined to break more barriers, he went on to serve as Chief of Police for the University of Miami Police Department, Director of Campus Safety for Florida International University, and as the first Administrative Director for the Miami-Dade County Equal Opportunity Program Social Service Agency which is now the Community Action Agency of Miami-Dade County.

He later shared his expertise and experiences as a professor of criminal justice at Florida International University. Mr. Clark capped his public service journey as a librarian in the city of North Miami and went on to pursue his entrepreneurial spirit by opening ''The Hickory Pit Barbeque Restaurant.''

Before his stellar career in law enforcement Mr. Clark dutifully served his country as a solider in the United States Army. After his tour of duty, he completed his college studies earning a Bachelor's Degree, two Master's Degrees and various certifications. He fulfilled his dream of becoming a member of the famed Marching 100, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University's (FAMU) matching band. While at FAMU he also met Alice Martha Cabrera who would become the love of his life and his wife of 44 years before her death.

Mr. Clark was a devout Christian and lifelong member of the Christ Episcopal Church in Coconut Grove. He was also a Life Member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated and a member of The Free and Accepted Masonic Lodge, Prince Hall Affiliated.

Please join me in honoring the late Mr. Harcourt Irvin Clark, Sr., who lived a life of purpose, commitment and service his family, his friends, and to our community.

HONORING ST. JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the St. James Baptist Church of Baton Rouge, located at 1105 North 44th Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The St. James Baptist Church was organized in 1942 under the leadership of the late Rev. James Smith, originally located on Old Hammond Highway. On December 22, 1952, the congregation relocated to its present address under the guidance of the late Rev. Dell Parker, who faithfully served for 23 years.

Throughout its history, St. James Baptist Church has been blessed with visionary leaders committed to fostering spiritual growth, community engagement, and the expansion of ministry. Under Rev. Parker, the church underwent a major restoration from a wooden structure to a block building, thanks to the efforts of Deacon Joe Profit and Bro. Isaiah Tolliver. The church has benefited from the dedication and generosity of many, including Rev. Walter Collins, who contributed both time and resources.

In 1975, Rev. Jesse Lafayette, Sr., began his tenure as pastor, guiding the congregation through remarkable growth and the formation of numerous auxiliaries, such as the Deacon and Deaconess Board, Board of Christian Education, Pastor's Aide Committee, and several choirs and ministries. Under his leadership, the church expanded its outreach with the Youth Choir, Community Male Chorus, Home Mission, Bible Study, and the SJBC Basketball Team.

A milestone was reached in 1997 with the construction of an educational facility and expanded parking, made possible by the unified efforts of the church family and God's guidance. The legacy of Rev. Lafayette continues to inspire the congregation, even after his passing in 1998, as the church carried on its mission through the leadership of Rev. Ernie Knighten, Minister Brian Harris, Rev. Warren Lebrane, and eventually Rev. Robert E. Smith, whose tenure saw further growth in membership and the establishment of new organizations including the SJBC Youth Drill Team and Liturgical Dance Group.

In recent years, St. James Baptist Church has expanded its facilities and embraced new ways to connect, such as live streaming services on Facebook. The ministerial team has grown, welcoming Rev. Jennie Warren and Minister Darnell Chatman. Despite the loss of beloved Pastor Dr. Robert E. Smith in June 2023, the church remains steadfast in its faith and commitment.

On March 17, 2024, Pastor J.L. Franklin was called to lead St. James Baptist Church into a new era of ministry. His dedication and enthusiasm have ignited renewed hope, and the congregation is confident that his leadership will continue to build upon the strong foundation and heritage of the church. St. James Baptist Church remains unwavering in its proclamation of God's love and forgiveness, providing a place of faith and service for all who seek Him.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in celebrating St. James Baptist Church, Pastor J.L. Franklin, and the devoted congregation for their enduring legacy, transformative service, and steadfast commitment to the Baton Rouge community. As we strive to reach new milestones, we are inspired by the scripture, ''for the people had a mind to work,'' and look forward to continued growth in the Kingdom of God.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO METHODIST HEALTH SYSTEM MOBILE MAMMOGRAPHY UNIT

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, the Methodist Health System Mobile Mammography Unit, which has been across North Texas, bringing breast cancer screenings directly to our communities. They partner with local schools, businesses, community centers, churches, and clinics, making it more convenient for women to access the care they need, bringing care options directly to patients.

Tools like the Mobile Mammography Unit help ensure that more women get screened and can catch any issues early, early detection can save lives. During Breast Cancer Awareness Month and always, we thank them for going the extra mile to keep North Texas healthy.

RECOGNIZING MARY ANNA SPRENGELER

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

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

Mary Anna has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Mary Anna, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Mary Anna'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 Mary Anna Sprengeler on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING MS. FRAN ALLEGRA

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I use today to recognize Ms. Fran Allegra, leader of the program, ''Our Kids.''